



Film four: Money and the Christian life

This guide will help you to use the video for discussion and learning in a group. You'll simply need the video itself, access to a Bible and as much time for discussion as you want!

New Economics Foundation research showed that “£1 spent with a local supplier is worth £1.76 to the local economy, and only 36 pence if it is spent out of the area. That makes £1 spent locally worth almost 400 per cent more.” This session will help you think about ways in which you can use the theology we've looked at in previous sessions to think about working for a more just financial system.

Watch:

Find the film 'Money and the Christian life' on: www.justfinancefoundation.org.uk/resources/god-and-money

Discuss:

Was there anything that stood out to you straight away from the video? Were there statistics that surprised you, ideas you hadn't thought about before or even suggestions you found inspiring?

Read:

There are three passages that will particularly help with your discussions. Read each one and discuss its significance with your group.

- Ruth chapter 2
- Matthew 6: 24-34
- Your bank statement! (If you want to take on the challenge from the video)



Questions

- What are your experiences of “votes into the market”? Do you shop in a way that honours God?
- Everything we have is a gift from God. How does understanding this change your perspective on money and possessions?
- “Money is about our allegiance”. In what ways have you recognized you, others round you or society as a whole serving mammon rather than God?
- “Money, religion and politics – just what we were told not to talk about, we should be talking about over our dinner tables!” How comfortable are you talking about your finances? How can we change this culture in the Church?

Further reading:

- The whole of the book of Ruth is worth reading and it is short – only four chapters.
- Krish Kandiah - Six theological theses on the family and poverty <https://krishk.com/2013/07/six-theological-theses-on-the-family-and-poverty>
- New Economic Foundation – Reimagining The High Street: <https://neweconomics.org/2010/09/reimagining-high-street>

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