

Revival

Life Group Leaders Guide

Objective

This guide contains the information and questions you will need to lead a life group study during our current sermon series. Our aim is to spark Spirit-led, Bible-centered conversations that anyone can participate in regardless of how biblically literate they may or may not be. **The win** that we want you to experience is when your group members **connect** more closely with each other and with God so that they are encouraged to move forward in living out their faith.

Directions

The *Purpose* and *Move* sections are for the leader to read to the group to provide clarity. You will see brief notes interspersed between groups of questions to help give the group context for their answers. The *Notes and Commentary* section (when included) is optional reading for the leader to get background information and better understanding of the passages before leading the discussion.

Series Overview

In our Revival series we will study the principles of spiritual revival with the goal of rallying the people of our church to commit to seeking God first together! The sermons will be based on the revival we read about in 2 Chronicles 15 (Asa's Revival). Our Life Groups will simultaneously study a complementary book by Kyle Idleman called *Gods at War*, which exposes the idols in our lives that we must lay down to seek God first. Make sure that everyone has a book.

Revival Series Schedule

Week	Sermon Date	Topic of sermon	Topic of life group
1	Oct. 14	Vision Sunday	gods at War
2	Oct. 21	Idol Tear Down	gods of Pleasure
3	Oct. 28	First and Best	gods of Money
4	Nov. 4	Covenant People	god of Me
5	Nov. 11	Commitment Day	(no study - socials)

The Point Church Life Group Curriculum

Revival

The Big Idea

Revival comes when give God our first and best.

Flow of Study

Icebreaker: What was money like in your family growing up?

Watch *Gods at War* video - [Session 3: God of Money](#) (clickable link)

Move #1: Let's talk about the video, based on chapter 9 "the god of Money" from the book *gods at War*.

1. What about the video or chapters resonated with you? What thoughts or feelings arose?

Move #2: In his book, *gods at War*, Kyle Idleman states: "Money is consistently portrayed as God's chief competition." Let's dig into a couple of relevant passages of Scripture about the idol of Money.

Read 1 Timothy 6:10 NIV

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1. What is the difference between *having* money and *loving* money?
2. What is the danger that a love of money holds for your faith?

Kyle Idleman, in *gods at War*, say that money "holds the most potential to become a God substitute."

Read Matthew 6:24 NIV

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

4. Why can we not serve both God and money?
5. What are some signs that money could be an idol in your life?

Read Matthew 6:21 NIV

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

7. Based on what Jesus teaches here, how can we break the hold money has on our hearts?

Note: Jesus' implicit exhortation is to put our treasure with God. One way we can know that money has become an idol in our lives is when we refuse to give it back to God who gave it to us in the first place. In the book of Malachi, God calls his people to return to him through putting their treasure with Him.

Read Malachi 3:7-9 NIV

7 "Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' 8 "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me.

Note: God calls his people to turn back to him. And just like Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, one of the ways we turn back to God is through putting him first in our finances. God has specifically told us how to put him first in our finances--through "tithes and offerings."

A "tithe" is when we give back to God the first 10% of what He has given to us and trust that he will make the other 90% of our income to be more than enough for us. And an "offering" is something we give back to God above our normal tithes as we feel led by the Spirit of God.

8. Why would God withhold his blessing from us when make money an idol in our lives?
9. How might God blessing us financially, when we have money as an idol, be an unloving act?

Consider: It would be just as harmful for God to bless us financially, when money is our idol, as it would be for a father who has a child with an addiction to painkillers to give him/her more painkillers. Like painkillers, money can be a blessing when used in the right way, but can be spiritually lethal when used to feed the idols of power, pleasure & possessions!

Read Malachi 3:10-12 NIV

10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty. 12 "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty.

10. What is a way you could test God in the area of tithing?
11. What does God promise will happen when we give him our first and best through the giving of our tithes and offerings?

Note: "No one has never become poor by giving." - Helen Keller

12. For those who have regularly practiced tithing, how have you experienced God's blessing in your life? Has God ever failed to provide for you?

Watch [Tithing Testimony Video](#) (clickable link)

Next Step:

- Take a step in putting God first in your life through bringing your tithes & offerings back to him and trusting him to meet your every need.
- On November 11th you will have the opportunity to join with hundreds of other people to make a 2-year commitment to put God first in your finances and help to bring Revival to our hearts, churches, and communities. Begin praying about your Revival Commitment on November 11th to give God your first and best! (Leader: HAND OUT COMMITMENT CARDS to anyone who does not have one)
- Read Part 4 - Temple of Love (Chapters 11-13) in *gods at War* before next week's Life Group!