



Leader's Guide

Mission vs. Mammon

Matthew 6:19-24 | Pastor Jon Gerlach | July 26, 2026

Session Overview

This week, we are talking about how money and possessions can win the competition of our hearts over God if we don't change our mindset. We will be digging into generosity and how we can be sacrificial with the resources we have. God has given us gifts, talents, etc., and we will be talking about the ways we can shift lives from trusting in the gifts of God to trusting in the One who gives us these gifts.

Session Flow (60-75 minutes)

Welcome and Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Have you ever had two conflicting interests or a choice you had to make where one option or the other would need to be sacrificed?

Purpose: This will get the group thinking about one of the most conflicting passions of our hearts: God and money.

Scripture Reading

Read Matthew 6:19-24 aloud together.

Leader Coaching Sidebar

- Feel free to use this as a guide to launch conversation. Don't be afraid to ask follow-up questions that deepen the discussion.
- Think about ways your group may be able to collectively show generosity.
- If your group is having a hard time opening up, remember that you can be a great example by first answering the question yourself.
- As always, remember to cultivate an atmosphere of security, letting all the group members know there is no judgment.

Discussion (40-50 minutes)

- 1. What stood out to you in the scripture reading? Were there any words or phrases that gave you a particular thought or feeling?**

Leader Note: This is a good discussion starting point to warm up a little bit and ease into the topic for today.

- 2. What does Jesus mean when He says, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21)? How can we apply this to our own lives?**

Leader Note: If you haven’t talked about it yet, this will help us dig deeper into the topic of generosity that we will be talking about today.

- 3. The competition of the heart between God and money is trust. What is something that you may be relying on more than God?**

Leader Note: The answer is not always money for people. It may be trusting in our own strength, the people around us, or some of our addictions like we talked about last week.

- 4. What would it look like to put your full trust in God rather than in the thing you answered for the last question?**

Leader Note: Think about the pressures that come with trusting earthly things. When we trust in money, we will always be stressed. Trusting God brings peace unlike anything else.

- 5. Have you had a moment in your life where you felt like your whole trust was in God? Share your experience with the group.**

Leader Note: Remind the group that it’s okay if they don’t trust God now the way that they have before. This may encourage the group to trust in Him like that again.

- 6. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-11. What new insight does this give to the possessions we have on earth?**

Leader Note: Wealth is not bad; it becomes bad when we trust in the things we have instead of God. That is what we will be talking about in the next few questions.

- 7. We all have wealth in some ways. Maybe it is money, or maybe it’s an abundance something else. How can we make sure we trust in God over the things we have?**

Leader Note: The things we have are all gifts from God! What are ways we can sacrifice those things in trusting that God will do abundantly more?

- 8. What is one way you can be generous with your money, time, or talents that God has gifted to you?**

Leader Note: Connecting to the last question, think about the ways we can offer all the different kinds of wealth as a tithe to God and His kingdom.

- 9. How does the concept of generosity challenge the way we view money and possessions in our culture today?**

Leader Note: Think about the scriptures we read and how this might be counter-cultural to the world we live in today.

- 10. What fears or obstacles might be preventing you from embodying generosity? How can you overcome them?**

Leader Note: After discussing these obstacles, take a moment to pray for one another.

Application and Prayer (10-15 minutes)

In what ways do you think God is calling you to grow in generosity? Do you think God is calling you to sacrifice something in faith that He is going to do something even greater?

Closing Prayer Suggestion

Lord, help us to have a generous spirit. We have much because you have given it. You tell us that those who are entrusted with much, much more will be asked. Help us to willingly give as you have willingly given to us. Help us to support one another in trusting you over the worldly thing and forgive us for not giving our full trust in you. We ask these things in your name, amen.