

WORTH IT.

Message 3 – The Principles of Multiplication Pastor Robert Morris

Announcements

- **2018 Community Series** // *The Other Side: Getting Through Life's Storms* // Starting January 13-14! Pray and consider hosting this five-week study on overcoming adversity. Talk with your small group host about questions on hosting a group for your family, friends, or colleagues. More to come!

Warm-up

Choose one or both of the warm-up questions to discuss at the beginning of group.

- What are three apps on your phone that you can't live without?
- What has been your favorite road trip or vacation?

Word and Application

During week three of the *Worth It* series, we learn from a powerful sermon message by Pastor Robert Morris of Gateway Church in Dallas, TX. Author of *The Blessed Life: Unlocking the Rewards of Generous Living*, Pastor Robert shares with us the *Principles of Multiplication*. Today's lesson incorporates content from Pastor Robert's *Principles of Multiplication* notes and discussion questions.

The miracle of multiplication is available to God's people, but before our money or resources can multiply, Jesus must first bless them. Multiplication comes through sharing. God is looking for audacious, courageous givers who trust Him and understand the power of the principles of multiplication.

1. Our money has to be blessed before it can multiply.

In your own words, what does it mean to *bless*? **Read Luke 9:12–17.** Reading the story of the

multiplication of the loaves and the fishes, did anything new stand out to you? What do you think is the significance of the leftover food?

Take a look at the following definitions of the word *bless*. Which of these definitions most stands out to you? How might this change your view of your finances?

- To make or declare holy; consecrate
- To invoke divine care for
- To confer prosperity or happiness upon
- To endow with or bestow favor

God is the master of multiplication; however, before our money can be multiplied, it must first be blessed by Jesus and then given away. It doesn't have the potential to multiply if it's not blessed. Describe a time when you have seen the principles of multiplication at work in your life.

2. Our money has to be given away before it can multiply.

Read Matthew 14:19-21. What were the disciples responsible for doing in this passage? What does it mean to have our money blessed by Jesus and shared with others? What would that look like in our lives? Explain.

Here are three key components of *giving away* our money.

- Get out of debt.
Stewardship is a key principle in God's kingdom. One of the ways we can demonstrate good stewardship is by getting out of debt. This may look different for each person. It is important for every individual to hear from God about what getting out of debt looks like for him or her. What are some practical ways we can be better stewards and givers of our treasure and resources?
- Don't manipulate.
It is important to trust God in every area of our lives. One of the ways we can demonstrate our trust in God with our finances is by not manipulating God or others. God knows what our needs are even better than we do. We need to trust that God will provide for our needs, and we don't have to manipulate to make provision happen. Do you feel like God is concerned with our provision and our needs? Why or why not?
- Give.
We are givers because we have been created in the image of the One who is the greatest giver of all. He gave His only Son Jesus for our salvation. Giving at its best comes from a sincere heart of gratitude. When we give, we are showing through our actions that we trust God to provide for us. Does giving reflect God's heart? Why or why not, and to what extent?

What do you feel the Holy Spirit has been saying to you during the course of this series? What are you going to do differently to apply the kingdom principles towards finances?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for blessing us with salvation through Jesus Christ. Please help us to develop hearts of gratitude and trust in all areas of our lives. Pray for the specific needs of the group.