

FAITH vs FINANCE



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Chapters 18 & 19: The Christian Atheist*

Discussion Sheet

Scriptural Foundation: “You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.” *Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (NIV)*

God’s Instructions: Dan. 4:28-37; 1 Chron. 29:14; James 4:13-15; Prov. 18:11; Job 31:24-25, 28; Matt. 25:14-30

1. Share a time in your life when you took the credit for something that you shouldn’t have.

2. Spend a few minutes discussing this quote: “We have the idea that we can dedicate our gifts to God. However, you cannot dedicate what is not yours.” *Oswald Chambers*

3. Pr John Crosby preaches a sermon titled, “*The Christian Atheist: I Believe in God, but I Trust in Money.*” Are you a “Christian atheist”? Explain your answer either way.

4. List three temptations that comfortable Christians face more than those who struggle financially.

5. Who was the first created being that God entrusted with great responsibilities, beauty, leadership roles and uncommon talents? What did he do with those gifts? What *should* he have done with them?

6. Are the “talents” spoken of in Matthew 25:14-30 ever the property of the servants? As such, who owns the profits or interest or praise that comes to those entrusted with managing the talents?

7. Write down two things you need to change to more honestly manage the talents you’ve been entrusted with.

* To be completed after reading chapters 18 & 19 of *HELP! I’ve Been Blessed!* by Julian Archer.

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“When a person prospers, either God gains a partner or the person loses their soul.”