ENTRUSTED | WEEK 5

NOVEMBER 8th, 2026

Eternal 401(k) | *PHILIPPIANS 4:14-19*

LEADER GUIDE

Read: Philippians 4:14-19

Main Idea

Because Jesus is our greatest treasure, we can trust Him with everything He has entrusted to us. When we invest in what matters for eternity, we can trust that God sees our faithfulness, rewards our obedience, and provides for our needs.

Leader Note

This week's study is intentionally shorter to allow additional time for prayer and fasting as we prepare for Commitment Sunday. Plan for approximately 15-20 minutes of discussion followed by 20-25 minutes of guided prayer. Encourage your group to approach this time with humility, unity, and a willingness to follow God's leading.

Icebreaker

What's one ridiculous thing you spent money on when you were younger that you wish you could get a refund for today?

Transition

Looking back, it's funny how differently we see money as we get older! Things that seemed so important at one point in our lives might not seem nearly as valuable today.

Our perspective changes when we think about the future. In Philippians 4, Paul challenges us to think even further ahead, beyond this life and into eternity.

Today, we're going to talk about how knowing what lasts forever should change the way we use what God has entrusted to us right now.

Summary

In Philippians 4, Paul thanks the church in Philippi for faithfully supporting his ministry. Although their generosity helped meet his practical needs, Paul was even more excited about the spiritual fruit their giving was producing.

This reminds us of three important truths:

1. God calls us to invest in eternity. Everything we own on Earth is temporary, but what we do for God's Kingdom has eternal significance. Our generosity allows us to participate in sharing the gospel and changing lives.
2. God promises eternal rewards. Jesus reminds us that earthly treasures will not last, but treasures stored in Heaven will. God sees every sacrifice made for His glory, even when no one else notices. Our greatest reward is Christ Himself.
3. God promises to provide for our needs. Philippians 4:19 reminds us that God is our provider. This does not mean we will never experience financial difficulties or that generosity guarantees financial wealth. It means we can trust our Heavenly Father to care for us as we faithfully follow Him.

As we approach Commitment Sunday, the question isn't simply how much we are willing to give. It's whether we are willing to trust God with what He has entrusted to us.

For some, the next step may be to begin giving. For others, it may be to become more consistent or to take a new step of sacrificial

generosity.

Whatever that next step looks like, our response should come from a heart of love, gratitude, and obedience, not pressure or guilt.

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Sunday's teaching? What challenged, convicted, or encouraged you personally?
2. Read Philippians 4:14-17. Paul was more excited about the eternal fruit of the Philippians' generosity than the financial gift itself. How does recognizing that our generosity can impact lives for eternity change the way you think about giving to God's Kingdom?
3. Read Matthew 19:21-22 and Matthew 6:19-21. The rich young ruler struggled to surrender his possessions because they had become too important to him. As you prepare for Commitment Sunday, is there anything you may be holding on to too tightly that could keep you from fully trusting and obeying God?
4. Read Philippians 4:19 and 2 Corinthians 9:7. God promises to provide for our needs and calls us to give willingly and cheerfully. What would it look like for you to take your next step of generosity from a place of faith rather than fear, pressure, or guilt?

Transition to Prayer and Fasting

As we prepare for Commitment Sunday, we want to do more than make a financial decision. We want to seek the Lord together, surrender our plans to Him, and ask Him to align our hearts with His purposes.

Throughout Scripture, God's people often prayed and fasted when seeking His direction, preparing for important decisions, or asking

Him to move in a powerful way.

Tonight, we're going to spend intentional time praying for our hearts, our church, and the lives God will impact through this next season.

Prayer and Fasting

What Is Biblical Fasting?

Biblical fasting is intentionally going without food for a period of time to focus on God through prayer. It is an opportunity to humble ourselves, remove distractions, and seek the Lord more intentionally.

Fasting is not about earning God's favor or trying to convince Him to give us what we want. It is about drawing closer to Him and surrendering our hearts to His will.

Fast Together as a Small Group

As we prepare for Commitment Sunday, consider choosing a day to fast together as a Small Group. This is a meaningful opportunity to seek the Lord in unity and pray for what He will do through our church in this next season.

You can even choose the day your group normally meets! Depending on your schedule, you can begin your fast together at the end of your meeting or plan to break your fast together with a meal and time of prayer.

Leader Tip: Before ending your meeting, take a few minutes to choose a day that works best for your group. Encourage everyone

to participate as they are able, keeping the focus on seeking God together through prayer and fasting.

Guidelines for a 24-Hour Fast can be found at cfmiami.org/fast.

Guided Group Prayer Experience (20-25 Minutes)
Leader Instructions: Guide your group through the following four prayer moments. Read each Scripture aloud, briefly explain the prayer focus, and allow time for members to pray. Encourage participation, but don't pressure anyone to pray out loud. Allow moments of silence for personal reflection.

1. Surrender Our Hearts to God (5 Minutes)
Read: Psalms 139:23-24

Before we ask God to move through our church, we want to invite Him to work in our own hearts.

Prayer Focus:

Ask God to examine your heart and reveal anything keeping you from fully trusting Him.

Surrender any fears, doubts, or desires that may be competing with your love for Him.

Ask God to help you approach Commitment Sunday with a willing and obedient heart.

Leader Prompt: Invite everyone to spend a minute praying silently. Then encourage someone to pray aloud.

2. Trust God With Our Next Step (5 Minutes)

Read: Proverbs 3:5-6 and 2 Corinthians 9:7

God doesn't call us to compare our generosity with others. He calls each of us to respond faithfully to what He has entrusted to us.

Prayer Focus:

- Ask God to give each person clarity about their next step of generosity.
- Pray for freedom from fear, comparison, guilt, and pressure.
- Ask God to strengthen our faith so we can respond with joyful obedience.
- Pray for wisdom to make decisions that honor God while faithfully caring for our families and responsibilities.

Leader Prompt: Encourage each person to pray personally about Commitment Sunday. Remind the group that this is a time to seek God's direction.

3. Pray for Unity and Faithfulness in Our Church (5 Minutes)
Read: Ephesians 4:1-3 and Colossians 3:17

As we enter this next season, we want to be a church united in our love for Jesus and committed to accomplishing His purposes together.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for our pastors, church leaders, staff, and volunteers.
- Ask God to give our church wisdom, humility, and unity.
- Pray that every campus and ministry would remain focused on making disciples and sharing the gospel.
- Ask God to help us steward every resource entrusted to our church with integrity and faithfulness.

Leader Prompt: Invite different group members to pray specifically for our church leadership, campuses, ministries, and volunteers.

Application
This week, commit to intentionally seeking God as you prepare for Commitment Sunday.

Take time to pray and fast, asking Him to reveal your next step of faith and generosity. Remember that your commitment is not about comparing amounts or responding to pressure. It is about faithfully responding to what God is leading you to do.

As you pray, remember this truth:

What we invest in God's Kingdom today can make an eternal difference.

Pray
Heavenly Father, thank You for being our faithful provider and for allowing us to participate in Your eternal work. As we prepare for Commitment Sunday, help us to fix our eyes on Jesus, our greatest treasure. Examine our hearts, strengthen our faith, and give us the courage to obey You.

We lift up Christ Fellowship and this next season of ministry. Give our pastors and leaders wisdom, unite our church family, and prepare us for all You have called us to do. We pray for the people who will come to know Jesus, the families who will be restored, and the lives that will be changed through the work of Your church.

Help us to be faithful with everything You have entrusted to us. May our generosity flow from grateful hearts, and may everything we do bring glory to Your Name. In Jesus' Name, amen.