



# MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS

LifeConnect Group Discussion Questions for the message,  
“The buck starts here” – January 31, 2010  
Proverbs 6.6-11

## Getting started...

- What is the most significant thing God has shown you during this series? How is it making a difference in your life?
- What is your dream in life? How seriously are you planning for its fulfillment?
- Have you ever learned a life lesson from an animal?
- If all your material needs were met without needing to work, would you still work? Why?

## Going deeper...

- Read the following passages: Proverbs 6.6-11; 10.26; 13.4; 15.19; 19.24; 20.4; 21.25; 22.13; 24.30; 26.13-16. What do they have in common?
- How do tithing, budgeting, having an emergency fund and getting rid of debt each free us to invest for the future? What desires could you sacrifice for now in order to invest more in your future? How important a role does investing play in managing God's business?
- Share a time when finances were so tight that you had to do without. How did God provide for you in this needy time? What did you learn from the experience?

- What's more important: trusting in God or planning ahead? Explain.
- How can we avoid the extremes of doing nothing to plan for the future and basing our security on how much wealth we have accumulated? How can you keep your motivation free from fear and free from the love of money?
- What priority have you given to investing in the future? How are you expecting to live out the last years of your life? What do you want to pass on to your children, your grandchildren?

## Taking it to the next level...

- What kind of “sluggard” or lazy behaviour do you see in yourself? What kind of ant-like behaviour do you see in yourself? In what way can you be more like the ant this week?
- What is the next step for you in prioritizing your money?
- Explain an experience you've had with a bad investment. (We can all learn from others' mistakes.)

*...more overleaf...*

- Look at Dave Ramsey's wise investing tips at <http://www.daveramsey.com/etc/investmentcenter> or read his book, *The Total Money Makeover*.

### **For further study...**

- Read how God led Joseph to plan for the future in Genesis 41.29-39, 46-49.
- Gain wisdom about preparing for the future by reading the following additional verses from Proverbs: 10.5; 13.4, 7, 11, 18, 22, 25; 24.3-4.

### **Remember:**

**Money + Time + Consistency = Wealth**

### **KEY POINTS:**

1. What will we save for?
  - Emergencies
  - Purchases
  - Future
2. Prioritize Your Dollars:
  - Tithe 10% to God
  - Minimal living expenses
  - Build the "Oh No" fund
  - Pay off all debt (except house)
  - Build wealth
3. Biblical Rules of Investing:
  - Don't try to get rich quick
  - Don't put all your eggs in one basket
  - Don't invest in things you don't understand