

## MEETING GUIDE – STEWARDSHIP: FINANCES AND TIME

*A Sample Timeline and Discussion Guide*

### Session Objectives

Develop an eternal perspective with regard to their personal resources and focus on the wise stewardship of what God has entrusted to them.

Strengthen each marriage as they discuss making wise financial and time decisions.

Community will continue to grow among the women

#### 7:00 ARRIVAL AND OPENING PRAYER

Start on time. Remind/thank the girls for being there on time. Open in prayer.

#### 7:10 SCRIPTURE MEMORY REVIEW

“Who would like to quote this month’s memory verses first?”

Go around the group and allow each woman to quote the verses saying topic, chapter, and verse. You want to encourage them to say it word for word so that they will remember these verses for years to come.

Take some time to review verses memorized in previous months. You could have them draw the slips of paper with references written on them, or divide them up into pairs to review the verses with each other.

#### 7:30 DISCUSS MARRIAGE FOCUS

How they spend their time and money is extremely important in marriages. It’s very important that they be aligned as much as possible in how they use their time and their financial resources.

Share personally how you and your husband have dealt with your finances or time. (what roles each of you have taken, what God has taught you about being a faithful steward, any challenges you’ve faced and how you’ve walked through those challenges, etc.)

To discuss the Marriage Focus, you might want to start with a couple of general questions, then begin to go deeper.

"What did you discover that you DON'T know about your husband, and what are you doing to learn more about him?"

"How easy was it to discuss finances on your date night?"

"How did your 'growing up years' influence your perspective on money or time?"

"How does your perspective on money or time differ from your husband's?"

"How important is it to avoid excessive debt and living within our income?"

## 7:55 OPTIONAL - DISCUSS TYRANNY OF THE URGENT

For those who gave the Tyranny of the Urgent assignment, this is a good time to briefly discuss Questions Related to Tyranny of the Urgent.

You could start out your discussion by reading this quote from Tyranny of the Urgent (found in the fourth and fifth paragraphs):

"Your greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important.' . . . We live in constant tension between the urgent and the important. The problem is that the important task rarely must be done today or even this week."

You may choose to discuss any of the questions. A good summary question is:

"In light of what you've discovered reading and reflecting on this article, what are one or two small steps you can take now?"

## 8:05 DISCUSS PEER CHALLENGE

"What are some practical steps you can take to being a faithful steward of all that God has give you?"

"Are there changes you need to make in how you spend your money or your time?"

"Are there any changes you need to make in order to leave a godly legacy and not just prosperity?"

## 8:20 BREAK

## 8:30 BOOK DISCUSSION

"What were the three key points you want to remember from the book, and how will you apply these?"

"What are some steps you wrote down to live more wisely in regard to finances or time?"

Collect a copy of the written summary of the book from each woman.

## MENTORING OPPORTUNITY:

Take a minute to share from your own life, what God has taught you in regard to setting healthy margins in your life. Were there some mistakes made along the way that you learned from and you can encourage the women with? What is the journey God has had you on as you learned to be a steward versus an owner of what He's given you? How about your giving journey? So often we avoid this topic. Just as you can look at your calendar to see what's really important to you in how you spend your time, so you can look at your checkbook to see what's really important to you, as it reflects who is the priority of your life!

### 9:25 HANDOUTS FOR NEXT TIME

Pass out homework for the next month: homework assignment, scripture memory, marriage exercise, peer challenge partner, book

### 9:30 PRAYER TIME

Ask each woman to share any answers to prayer from last month and what she would like the group to pray for her during this coming month. Don't forget to share your own prayer requests. Spend time praying together either as a group or with prayer partners - whatever seems the best way to wrap up the evening together.

### 9:55 WRAP-UP

Encourage the women by telling them how much you appreciate their openness to share their lives with each other, as well as their commitment to the group. Remind them that you are available to them. Depending upon your preference, suggest they call or email you if they want to talk before the next meeting. Encourage them to continue being disciplined about diligently completing all their assignments. This will be a great benefit to them!!

### 10:00 DISMISS