**Week 3 - Compass - Finances God’s Way Map (Part 1)**

Day 1 - Homework (“One Anothers” & “Real Love”)

**Complete the Deed on pages 65-67. Ask two people in your group to witness it (optional)**

1. As a couple, what did you learn from completing this together? How do you think this will influence you in the future?

Read the “One Anothers” section on pages 37 - 38

1. Which “one anothers” did you and your spouse select to apply in your marriage this week?

*Our “one another” verse for this week:*

1. What do you hope to accomplish by applying it?

Read 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3

*If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

1. What does this passage say about the importance of love, and why do you think God wants you to love your spouse deeply?

Read 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 and read the “Real Love” section on pages 38 - 39

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

1. Which description of love did you and your mate choose to practice in your marriage this week?

*Our description of real love to apply this week:*

1. What do you hope to accomplish by practicing this dimension of love?

Day 2 - Homework (God’s Part and Our Part)

**Read Pg 53 to 55 “Our Responsibilities”**

***Read CCC 36***

*"Our holy mother, the Church, holds and teaches that God, the first principle and last end of all things, can be known with certainty from the created world by the natural light of human reason." Without this capacity, man would not be able to welcome God's revelation. Man has this capacity because he is created "in the image of God".*

1. This is the most important section of the entire study because how we view God determines how we live. In the bible, God calls himself by more than 250 names. What is the name that best describes God’s part in the area of money to you?

Read Deuteronomy 10:14

*Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it.*

Psalm 24:1

*The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.*

1. Evaluate your attitude of ownership toward your possessions. Do you consistently recognise the true owner of those possessions? If not, what will you do to help you recognise God’s ownership?

Read 1 Corinthians 4: 2

*Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.*

1. According to this verse, what is your requirement as a steward (manager)? How will this influence how you spend money?

Read Luke 16: 1-2

*Then Jesus[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+16:1-2&version=NRSVCE#fen-NRSVCE-29886a)*] said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’*

1. Why did the master remove the steward (manager) from his position, and how does this motivate you to be faithful?

Read Luke 16: 10

*Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.*

1. Describe the principle found in this verse and how it might apply to you.

Day 3 - Homework (Differences)

**Read Pg 55 “Difference” to Pg 59 “The Compass-Finances God’s Way Map”**

1. All of us have different backgrounds and unique financial personalities. Describe the biggest differences (personality and background) between you and your spouse.

Husband -

Wife -

1. How do these differences affect your marriage and how you handle your finances?
2. What strengths does *your spouse* possess that can support your areas of weakness?

Husband -

Wife -

1. What strengths do *you* have that can compensate for your spouse’s weaknesses?

Husband -

Wife -

Day 4 - Homework (Giving)

**Read Pg 59 to 63 “Giving”**

Read 1 Corinthians 13:3

*If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

**2 Corinthians 9: 7**

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

1. What do these passages communicate about the importance of the proper attitude in giving?
2. How would you describe your attitude to giving? Does it need to change; if so, how?

Read 1 Peter 4: 10

*As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.*

U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

*What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure.  But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.*

1. How does the above vision of Christian stewardship differ from the world’s way?

**Read Matthew 6: 20**

*But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6:20&version=NRSVCE#fen-NRSVCE-27575a)*] consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.*

**Luke 12: 34**

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

1. List the benefits for the giver that are found in these passages and describe how they apply to you?

**Read 2 Corinthians 8: 1-5**

*And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.*

5. What can we learn from how God’s people gave?

*Prayerfully with your spouse, seek the Lord’s guidance to determine how much you should give. You will not be asked to disclose the amount*

Day 5 - Homework (Savings)

**Read Pg 63 to 63 “Savings”**

Read Genesis 41: 34-36

*Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land, and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plenteous years. Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming, and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. 36 That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine.”*

Read Proverbs 21: 20

*Precious treasure remains[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+21:20&version=NRSVCE#fen-NRSVCE-19075a)*] in the house of the wise, but the fool devours it.*

**Proverbs 30: 24-25**

*Four things on earth are small, yet they are exceedingly wise: the ants are a people without strength, yet they provide their food in the summer;*

1. What do these passages communicate to you about savings?
2. If you are not yet saving, what is hindering you?
3. How do you propose to begin saving if you are not yet doing it?

Day 6 - Homework (Once and for all Decisions)

1. What information especially interested you, and what are you going to do because of it?
2. What was the “once and for all decision” you and your spouse identified this week, and why did you choose it? (Read pg 39 if you need to review the once and for all decisions.)

*Once and for all decision:*

*Please write your prayer requests in your prayer log before coming to class.*