

“COMMAND THEM TO DO GOOD, TO BE RICH IN GOOD DEEDS,
AND TO BE GENEROUS AND WILLING TO SHARE.” —1 TIMOTHY 6:18

ANDY STANLEY



HOW TO
BE RICH

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU HAVE.
IT'S WHAT YOU DO
WITH WHAT YOU HAVE.

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

SMALL GROUP VIDEO DISCUSSION GUIDE

HOW TO USE THE GUIDE

This discussion guide was developed for use with the *How to Be Rich* four-session video, which complements and expands the material in this book. Ideally, those leading a group discussion on *How to Be Rich* should preview each video session and read through the accompanying portion of the discussion guide before the group meets. While the material in the discussion guide is intended for use with the video, some of the discussion questions will also reflect content that is used in the book.

The four video sessions cover the overarching themes of the book. However, it is strongly recommended that you and your group view Session 1 before you begin reading the book, as Andy Stanley presents an excellent overview of *How*

to Be Rich that will make your book reading and small group experience even more rewarding.

The four sessions are:

1. Congratulations
2. Side Effects
3. Dollar Cost Living
4. Diversify

FORMAT OF THE GUIDE

- **Introduction and Opening Question**— Each session features a short introduction to establish the theme. If your group wants to open with a question that serves as a discussion starter or icebreaker, please make use of this question.
- **Video Viewing**— The video clip for each session is approximately 15–20 minutes.
- **Video Discussion**— These questions are designed to follow Andy's video teaching and engage the group in discussion around the content they just watched. Some of the questions focus on Bible passages used in the video and tie in with the theme of the session.
- **Moving Forward**— This challenge helps group members consider how they might put what they learned into action.
- **Between Sessions**— Each session concludes with a key Bible passage to memorize as well as recommended reading from the book in preparation for the next meeting.

SESSION 1: CONGRATULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever stopped to think, *How much money does it take to be R-I-C-H?* Rich always seems to be the other person. Most people think that anyone who has at least twice the wealth that they have is rich. Which means, of course, that nobody's rich, but everybody knows someone who is.

In this study, we will look at some significant words from the apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 6. In verse 17 of that chapter, Paul says, "Command those who are rich in this present world . . ." So, who *are* the rich? Might Paul's words written so long ago be directed to us today?

When you hear the word "rich," what are the first things that come to your mind?

VIDEO VIEWING AND NOTES

Watch the Session 1 video, "Congratulations," together as a group and note anything that impacts you.

VIDEO DISCUSSION

1. When Andy says “if you make \$48,000 or more a year, you are in the top 1 percent of wage earners in the world,” how does that make you feel? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2. Why do people confuse *being* rich with *feeling* rich?
3. Describe a time when you noticed that the more that you had, the more you wanted. When you feed an appetite, what happens to it? Why?
4. In the video, Andy says “wealth can become a substitute for God.” Do you believe that your hope could migrate from dependency on God to dependency on money? Why or why not?
5. Read 1 Timothy 6:17–19 together as a group. Do you tend to think of Christians and the church as being generous? Why or why not?

6. How could being generous to others change people's perceptions of Christians and the church?

7. Why do we hesitate to give to others even though we have more than we need?

MOVING FORWARD

Most of us have to come to terms with the fact that we are rich. But, unfortunately, most of us don't know how to BE RICH. During this study, we will be challenged to think deeply about what it means to be rich and how to become generous people.

What can you do this week to be rich toward others? How can your group support each other to become generous people?

BETWEEN SESSIONS

1. Memorize these key verses during the coming week:

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

(1 Timothy 6:17–18)

2. Read the introduction and chapters 1 and 2 of this book before your small group meets for Session 2.

SESSION 2: SIDE EFFECTS

INTRODUCTION

Rich people live in denial. They won't admit they're rich. No matter how much you have, there's always someone who has more. But if you earn \$37,000 a year, you are in the top 4 percent of wage earners in the world. If you earn \$48,000 a year, you are in the top 1 percent of wage earners in the world. Most of us are rich. And one of the dangers of being rich is discontentment. The more you have, the more you want.

Wealth has side effects. If you're rich, you're at risk. How do we avoid the pitfalls of wealth?

VIDEO VIEWING AND NOTES

Watch the Session 2 video, "Side Effects," together as a group and note anything that impacts you.

VIDEO DISCUSSION

1. How do you define “rich”? How much money does someone have to make in order to be considered wealthy?
2. When it comes to money and finances, what are your hopes, dreams, and goals?
3. In the video, Andy asked the question, “How much money would you need to secure your future against all imaginable eventualities?” What went through your mind?
4. Which of these statements creates more anxiety in you: “There is no God” or “There is no money”? Why?
5. Read 1 Timothy 6:17 together as a group. How does this passage challenge your assumptions about wealth?

6. Why do you think that Paul commands those who are rich not to be arrogant?

7. Wealth and God will always be in competition for your heart. How can you prevent your heart from migrating from God?

MOVING FORWARD

If you're wealthy, don't be arrogant. Be grateful. Don't lean on your wealth. Lean on the One who gave you your wealth. That way, you can have peace in your heart as well as money in the bank. Make this daily declaration a part of your life: "I will not place my trust in riches, but in him who richly provides."

What is one thing you can do this week to begin to put your hope in God instead of your wealth? What can your group do to support each other to put your hope in God?

BETWEEN SESSIONS

1. Memorize this key verse for the coming week:

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

(Matthew 6:24)

2. Read chapters 3 and 4 of this book before your small group meets for Session 3.

SESSION 3: DOLLAR COST LIVING

INTRODUCTION

For many of us, our problem isn't that we're not rich; our problem is that we don't feel rich. The desire to feel wealthy causes us to place our hope in money instead of in God. But the Bible describes a different way of thinking about and using our wealth.

Talk about a time when you gave money to someone in need. How did it make you feel?

VIDEO VIEWING AND NOTES

Watch the Session 3 video, "Dollar Cost Living," together as a group and note anything that impacts you.

VIDEO DISCUSSION

1. In the video, Andy says that the key to feeling rich isn't making a lot of money but having financial margin. Does that ring true to you? Why or why not?
2. What is one thing that stands in the way of you being a percentage giver instead of a spontaneous giver? What is one thing you can do to overcome that obstacle?
3. What kinds of things could you and your church accomplish in your community if everyone became percentage givers?
4. What most excites you about giving money to help others?
5. Read 1 Timothy 6:18 together as a group. What are ways that we can be rich in good deeds when our daily schedules are so filled with activity?

6. In the video, Andy says that Paul's point to Timothy is that rich people should give larger sums and higher percentages. Do you agree? Why or why not?
7. How do you think the early Christians practiced generosity and a willingness to share? (See Acts 2:42–47.)

MOVING FORWARD

To keep your hope from migrating, decide ahead of time to do more and give more. If God has blessed you with more than you need, it is so that you can share your abundance with those in need. Do and give systematically. Can you imagine what would happen if everyone did that?

What is one step you can take this week toward becoming a percentage giver rather than a spontaneous giver? What can your group do to support each other to be rich in good deeds and more generous?

BETWEEN SESSIONS

1. Memorize this key verse for the coming week:

Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

(1 Timothy 6:18)

2. Read chapters 5 and 6 of this book before your small group meets for Session 4.

SESSION 4: DIVERSIFY

INTRODUCTION

We're all tempted to place our faith in money. We're tempted to believe that if we make enough, we'll be able to control our circumstances and create a better life for ourselves. The problem with that view is that the more we place our faith in the money, the more it controls us. Scripture challenges us to look at our money differently because our lives are better when we place our trust in the One who richly provides. Viewing wealth through the lens of eternity loosens our grip on it and its grip on us.

How has your view toward wealth changed over the course of reading *How to Be Rich* and watching the videos during your small group?

VIDEO VIEWING AND NOTES

Watch the Session 4 video, "Diversify," together as a group and note anything that impacts you.

VIDEO DISCUSSION

1. In the video, Andy says that we don't get credit for what we leave but for what we give. What's your response to that idea?
2. What are ways we can loosen the grip of desiring more wealth in our lives in light of eternity?
3. What steps can we all take to help us move from being 3S Givers to becoming 3P Givers?
4. Read Luke 12:13–21 together as a group. In the parable, Jesus draws a connection between being rich toward those in need and being rich toward God. What do you like about this connection? How does it challenge you?
5. Read 1 Timothy 6:19 together as a group. Talk about creating “a firm foundation for the coming age” with your generosity. Does that idea resonate with you? Why or why not?

MOVING FORWARD

Do good for those who can't or won't do good for you. Don't place your hope in riches, but in the One who richly provides. Since you have more, do more and give more. **Remember, there's more to life than this life.**

What is one thing you can do this week to begin viewing wealth through the lens of eternity? What can your group do to support each other as you choose to loosen your grip on wealth?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

1. Memorize these key verses this coming week:

Sell your possessions and give to the poor.
Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

(Luke 12:33–34)

2. Read chapter 7 and the conclusion of this book and reflect on how you can become a person who desires *“to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.”*