



On the Move Small Group Discussion Guide

Series Introduction (*Read aloud during Session 1, revisit in future sessions as needed*)

This fall, we embark on a pivotal journey with the ON THE MOVE campaign—a season of vision casting and active participation. Our church is setting a bold, three-year course focused on three key initiatives: Building Our Faith, Reaching Our Community and Shaping Our Future.

We're inviting everyone to make a personal investment—spiritually, missionally, and financially. This isn't just about reaching goals; it's about engaging in God's work together.

Why take these bold steps? Over the next five weeks, we'll explore five of Jesus' parables, revealing why investing in the ON THE MOVE vision isn't a risk or sacrifice but an opportunity to step deeper into God's kingdom. As we navigate each session, we will keep this question in mind: *What makes us willing to take such bold steps and embrace sacrifices for this vision?*

Each session will dive into key takeaways from the weekly sermon. We'll also watch brief interviews with Pastor Nate and Pastor Terry, who will reflect on the messages and share practical ways to bring the ON THE MOVE principles to life.

We hope this serves as a fun and informal, behind-the-scenes look at how the vision for ON THE MOVE has developed in the hearts of the leadership. More importantly, we want to create space for you to apply these insights in your own life. The best place to do that is within a close-knit, trusted small group or around the dinner table with family and friends.

Important Note for Leaders: Your enthusiasm, openness and personal engagement with the ON THE MOVE vision are crucial. Be prepared to share your stories, challenges, and excitement to set the tone and inspire transformation in your group.

Schedule:

[Session 1: Week of October 20 // Jesus on the Move // Stories of Gratitude](#)

[Session 2: Week of October 27 // Church on the Move // Coin Challenge](#)

[Session 3: Week of November 3 // Stewardship on the Move // Buckets](#)

[Session 4: Week of November 10 // Money on the Move // Bigger Barns](#)

[Session 5: Week of November 17 // Hearts on the Move // The Yardstick](#)

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Session 1 - Jesus on the Move // Stories of Gratitude (Week of October 20)

Overview: This week we begin the ON THE MOVE series with a focus on Jesus and His ultimate demonstration of generosity. We'll reflect on how gratitude strengthens our faith and builds resilience in our spiritual journey.

Opening Prayer: Begin by asking God to open your hearts to gratitude, reflecting on Jesus' example of generosity and love. He sacrificed his life to save us, the ultimate example of generosity.

Ice Breaker: What makes you nervous or apprehensive about a study on money management and generosity? What makes you hopeful or inspired about this study?

Teaching Video: [Watch the video featuring Pastor Terry and Pastor Nate](#), discussing the heart behind the ON THE MOVE campaign and hear why this entire endeavor must begin with a focus on Jesus.

Scripture: Matthew 13:44-46 (Parable of the Priceless Pearl)

Discussion Questions:

1. You heard Pastor Nate's perspective on the importance of starting with Jesus. From your point of view, why do you think it's important to begin this campaign with a focus on Jesus?
2. In Matthew 13:44-46, Jesus describes the Kingdom of heaven as a treasure worth giving up everything for. What sacrifices have you made in your faith journey to seek God's path in your life? How have these moments of surrender and sacrifice in following Jesus helped you grow in your faith or relationship with God?
3. How does Jesus' example of becoming the merchant who gave up everything to save you challenge or inspire your own generosity?

Activity: Gratitude Chain: Have each person share a brief story about someone who has impacted their faith and why they are grateful for them. After sharing, the speaker passes to someone in the group by saying, "I'm thankful for (name), and now I want to hear who (next person) is grateful for!"

Taking Action This Week:

1. This week, take additional time to reflect on someone who has influenced your faith and express gratitude to God for their impact. Consider sharing your message of gratitude in a creative way, such as a handwritten note or personal conversation. You will have a chance to share your experience in the next session.
2. Read the ON THE MOVE Vision Guide that we received on Sunday. Pastor Nate asked us each to "Make a commitment to make a financial commitment." Begin praying about what sacrifice looks like in your life as we seek to build the Kingdom of Jesus in our community.

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As we move forward in this series, let's remember that Jesus' example of generosity and the influence of others in our lives are key components of becoming resilient disciples. Let's commit to supporting each other, being honest and going deeper in the weeks ahead.

Closing Prayer: Spend time praying for the people who have shaped your spiritual journey and for your group as you grow together throughout this series. Ask God to use your group as an open and honest place where group members can dialogue about the weekly message and begin working out how God is moving them to participate, in faith, sacrifice and action.

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Session 2 - Church on the Move // The Coin Challenge (Week of October 27)

Overview: This week we focus on what it means to be a church ON THE MOVE, taking risks for God's Kingdom. The coin challenge symbolizes that commitment. Those who take risks for God's kingdom will reap the reward of joy, purpose and eternal wealth, while fear and indifference lead to missing out on that reward. Last week, we emphasized gratitude. Have you connected with someone to express your gratitude? How has that experience shaped your perspective on investing in others?

Opening Prayer: Begin by asking God for clarity and courage as you discuss what it means to invest in His kingdom.

Icebreaker: What aspect of the "Shaping the Future" Building Plan resonates with you most and why? [The Vision Guide is available on our website brandywine.church/onthemove](http://brandywine.church/onthemove)

Teaching Video: [Watch the video featuring Pastor Terry and Pastor Nate](#) discussing the background and impact of the coin challenge and how it relates to being a church on the move.

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the Talents)

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the coin challenge personally resonate with you? What emotions did it stir in you?
2. In the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), the servants were entrusted with resources to invest. How does this parable challenge or inspire you when it comes to taking risks for God's Kingdom?
3. What does taking a risk for God's Kingdom look like for you personally?
4. What fears or feelings of indifference might be preventing you from fully investing in what God has entrusted to you?
5. How can we, as a small group, hold each other accountable in taking meaningful risks for God's mission?

Taking Action This Week:

1. Reflect on areas where you feel God is calling you to take a risk in faith. How can you actively invest in God's Kingdom this week?
2. As we look to Commitment Sunday on November 17, continue to ask God how he wants you to make a financial sacrifice and investment in the ON THE MOVE Vision.

Closing Prayer: Pray for boldness, asking God to help you overcome fear and indifference, and to lead your group and church to be on the move for His Kingdom.

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Session 3 - Stewardship on the Move // Buckets (Week of November 3)

Overview: Building on last week's discussion, this session explores stewardship by reflecting on the parable of the shrewd manager in Luke 16:1-13. Our aim is to align our financial habits with God's priorities and reflect His Kingdom values. This week, we'll use the "financial buckets" illustration to evaluate and realign our financial priorities.

Opening Prayer: Pray for wisdom and insight as you explore how to better steward the resources God has entrusted to you.

Icebreaker: What messages does our culture send us about managing money (debt, saving, spending, taxes, giving)? How does this often differ from what God's Word teaches?

Teaching Video: [Watch the video featuring Pastor Terry and Pastor Nate](#) discussing how stewardship reflects Kingdom priorities.

Scripture: Luke 16:1-13 (Parable of the Shrewd Manager)

Discussion Questions:

1. In Luke 16:1-13, the steward plans wisely for his future, even though he's deeply flawed. If this selfish money manager is commended for his shrewdness, how much more should we as Kingdom managers be financially wise? How does being wise with your money reflect your commitment to God's Kingdom?
2. Who do you know that seems to be a wise Kingdom manager? What makes them wise?
3. Which financial bucket (spending, debt, taxes, saving, giving) have you been neglecting in your life? How can you better align your financial habits with Jesus' Kingdom priorities?
4. How can we, as a group, support each other in being wise stewards of our resources?

Taking Action This Week:

1. Review your financial habits and create a practical plan to shift your priorities where needed, ensuring they reflect both personal and Kingdom values. Consider using the [Budget Worksheet from Crown Financial Ministries](#) to help you become a wise money manager.
2. Continue to "make a commitment to make a financial commitment" as we prepare for Commitment Sunday on November 17. Discuss with your family or someone close to you what adjustments or sacrifices you need to make to honor this financial commitment.

Closing Prayer: Pray for a heart of stewardship, asking God to help you honor Him with all that you've been entrusted with, and to use your resources for His purposes.

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Budget Worksheet from Crown Financial Ministries

Estimated Budget

Monthly Income

Gross Monthly Income \$

Salary \$ _____
Interest \$ _____
Dividends \$ _____
Other Income \$ _____

Less

1. Tithe/Giving \$ _____
2. Taxes (Federal / State / Fica) \$ _____

Net Spendable Income \$

Monthly Living Expenses

3. Housing \$

Mortgage/Rent \$ _____
Insurance \$ _____
Property taxes \$ _____
Cable TV \$ _____
Electricity \$ _____
Gas \$ _____
Water \$ _____
Sanitation \$ _____
Telephone \$ _____
Maintenance \$ _____
Internet service \$ _____
Other \$ _____

4. Food \$

5. Transportation \$

Payments \$ _____
Gas & Oil \$ _____
Insurance \$ _____
License/Taxes \$ _____
Maintenance \$ _____
Replacement \$ _____
Other \$ _____

6. Insurance \$

Insurance \$ _____
Life \$ _____
Health/Dental \$ _____
Disability \$ _____
Other \$ _____

7. Debts (not including house or auto) \$

8. Entertainment/Recreation \$

Eating out \$ _____
Babysitters \$ _____
Activities/Trips \$ _____
Vacation \$ _____
Pets \$ _____
Other \$ _____

9. Clothing \$

10. Savings \$

11. Medical / Dental \$

Doctor \$ _____
Dentist \$ _____
Prescriptions \$ _____
Other \$ _____

12. Miscellaneous \$

Toiletries/Cosmetics \$ _____
Beauty/Barber \$ _____
Laundry/Cleaners \$ _____
Allowances \$ _____
Subscriptions \$ _____
Gifts \$ _____
Other \$ _____

13. Investments \$

14. School / Childcare \$

Tuition \$ _____
Materials \$ _____
Transportation \$ _____
Childcare \$ _____

Total Living Expenses \$

How the Month Turns Out

NET SPENDABLE INCOME \$

- TOTAL LIVING EXPENSES \$

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Session 4 - Money on the Move // Bigger Barns (Week of November 10)

Overview: This week we explore our relationship with material possessions and the tendency to build "bigger barns." We'll be challenged by what it means to prioritize being rich toward God rather than merely accumulating wealth for ourselves.

Opening Prayer: Ask God to help you see your possessions through His eyes and focus on eternal treasures.

Icebreaker: So far, how has this study shifted your thinking, challenged your financial habits or inspired generosity in your life?

Teaching Video: [Watch the video with Pastor Terry and Pastor Nate](#) discussing the story of the rich fool from Luke 12:13-34 and the concept of "bigger barns."

Scripture: Luke 12:13-34 (Parable of the Rich Fool)

Discussion Questions:

1. In Luke 12:15, Jesus warns, "Life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." What does that mean for how you view your material possessions?
2. When you hear the story of "bigger barns" what comes to your mind about something that could be a "bigger barn" in your life?
3. There is a tension between wanting to be secure in the future and wanting to be generous in the present. Discuss that tension and how this parable challenges our conventional thinking.
4. We use the phrase time, talents and treasures to describe the resources God has given us to manage and invest. We have discussed our "treasures" throughout this study, but how are you investing your time and talents for God's Kingdom? What ways can you better utilize these resources for the Kingdom?

Taking Action This Week:

1. Take time to reflect on your "bigger barns" and consider how you can shift your focus toward building treasures in heaven. What decisions or sacrifices might God want you to make?
2. Discuss with loved ones on how you will respond to the On the Move financial investment. Take time this week to prepare your heart and your decision for **Commitment Sunday on November 17**. At the end of the service the church will make a financial commitment, placing them in boxes in the front of the sanctuary.

Closing Prayer: Pray for a heart of generosity and ask for the wisdom to use your resources, time and talents to further God's Kingdom, rather than being consumed by materialism.

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Session 5 - Hearts on the Move // The Yardstick (Week of November 17)

Overview: This week we conclude the ON THE MOVE series by focusing on the heart of giving, inspired by Luke 21:1-4. We will reflect on the widow's offering and the importance of the heart in worship.

Opening Prayer: Ask God to open both your mind and heart to fully embrace His call to generosity.

Icebreaker: Share your personal experience of making your financial commitment. What emotions did you feel? What was it like witnessing the church come together in commitment?

Teaching Video: [Watch the video with Pastor Terry and Pastor Nate](#) discussing the widow's offering and contrasting it with the rich who gave out of abundance.

Scripture: Luke 21:1-4 (The Widow's Offering)

Discussion Questions:

1. Are you more driven by your emotions or logic when making decisions? For couples, how do you balance or challenge each other in this area?
2. In Luke 21:1-4, Jesus commends the widow's sacrificial gift. How does this challenge our views on generosity and money management?
3. What does this story teach us about the heart behind giving?
4. Reflect on the "18-inch gap" between the head and heart. How does this distance impact your faith and actions?
5. How can we bridge this gap to align our heads, hearts and hands in serving God? Share a personal story about a time you bridged that gap and the outcome.

Taking Action This Week:

1. Reflect on how your heart influences your giving and serving. Consider how God might use your generosity to impact your family, church and community. Journal your reflections and commit to bridging the gap between your head and heart in your faith journey.
2. Align your financial commitment schedule with your heart's intentions, ensuring your actions reflect your commitment.

Closing Prayer: Pray together asking God to align your hearts and minds and guide your actions as we work to be a church ON THE MOVE for His glory. Specifically, lift up December 8, our Big Give Sunday, asking God to move each person to invest spiritually, missionally and financially to fulfill our discipleship goals in His timing.