

2018 Adult Issue Study
What About Our Money? A Faith Response
By Susan K. Taylor

What About Our Money? A Faith Response explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith. Through this connection between our faith and our money, readers discover how to live closer to God and God’s people, even in our North American culture that is so deeply defined by money. She explores the biblical foundation of abundance (sufficiency), which stands in opposition to the scarcity narrative our culture tells us from the time we are very young.

The text’s seven chapters start with providing a biblical foundation for the discussion to come. Taylor then explores the systems in which we make our financial decisions, our modern-day understanding of what is available to us, and how we use/consume our resources in Chapters 2–4. Chapters 5–7 help readers take steps to implement this knowledge in their lives by looking at what belongs to God, how we can plan for the future as people of faith, and to make the connection between our faith and finances.

The focus of this study is both personal and communal. Readers will explore their own relationship with money, the money choices available to us, and how we individually and collectively respond in light of our faith. The text takes into account that we are all in different places, in different financial circumstances, health, family structure, race, age, and stage of life, and each of us has our own values and capacities.

Taylor recognizes that any discussion of money must be set within the context of culture and economic systems. Inequities and oppression based on such factors as race, sex, religion, socio-economic class, and geography are evident throughout the Bible. Today, they continue to powerfully shape people’s relationship to money, to God, and to God’s people.

In any—and every—cross-section of demographics and circumstance, it is spiritually vital to ask, from the grounding of our faith, “What about our money?” Regardless of our circumstance, our relationship to money shapes our relationship with God and God’s people.

Susan K. Taylor has invested much of her life exploring the intersections of faith and money. Taylor weaves money and faith together in her own life, as a mother of two (now young adults); a partner in Just Money Advisors, a financial planning and investment management company that specializes in socially responsible and community investment strategies; regular writer on money and spirituality; vice-president of Faith and Money Network’s board of directors; treasurer for Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light, which mobilizes a religious response to global warming; and an active member in her Louisville, Kentucky, church.

Leaders Guide by Crys Zinkiewicz.