

# FAITH vs FINANCE



*Discover* the surprising link between Michelangelo and Nicodemus at [www.faith-vs-finance.org/Nicolangelo](http://www.faith-vs-finance.org/Nicolangelo)

## The Backstory: Why this book?\*

## Discussion Sheet

**Scriptural Foundation:** “<sup>7</sup> For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land ... <sup>10</sup> When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. <sup>11</sup> Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. <sup>12</sup> Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, <sup>13</sup> and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup> then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God.” *Deuteronomy 8:7a, 10-14a (NIV)*

**God’s Instructions:** James 4:10; Daniel 10:12; 2 Chronicles 34:27

1. Is Julian’s *Backstory* a one-in-a-million situation or can you also relate to it in some way? If so, how?

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2. What thoughts or feelings come to mind when you read that some people “feel lonely and discriminated against because of their prosperity”? Be honest! Have you ever felt that way?

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3. Do you ever find yourself feeling superior to other people because of the house or suburb you live in, the car you drive or some talent or other blessing that you have?

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4. Do you agree with Julian’s claim that when a Christian becomes affluent or rich they are in “the most spiritually dangerous stage of their life”?

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5. Is it possible for a person to be both financially rich and a true follower of Christ?

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6. Have a ‘for and against’ discussion about Gandhi’s statement at the start of the chapter. Who agrees with it, who disagrees and why?

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7. To Do List: \_\_\_\_\_

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\* To be completed after reading ‘The Backstory: Why this book?’ in *HELP! I’ve Been Blessed!* by Julian Archer.

Other free resources are available at [www.faith-vs-finance.org](http://www.faith-vs-finance.org)

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*“When a person prospers, either God gains a partner or the person loses their soul.”*