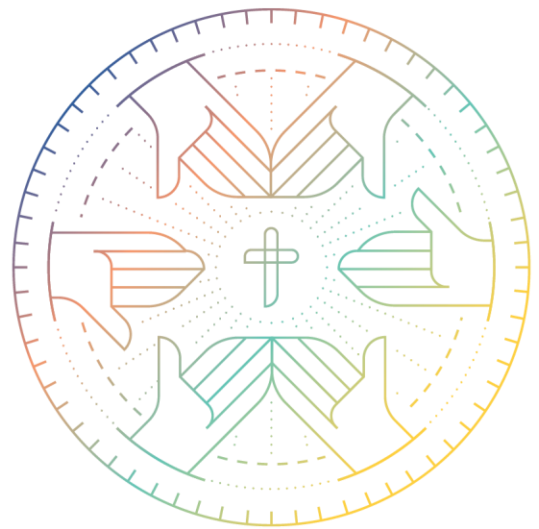


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## ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

If you had to choose 1-2 categories to determine where you spend the most money, what would they be?

OR

Do you enjoy naming objects, creating new words for items, or naming meetings? What is the craziest name you have given something?

(ex. Naming your car "Petunia", calling a sidewalk curb an "oopsie" because that's what you say when you hit it, or naming a meeting "Powder Puff Girls Plan a Presentation")

## INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

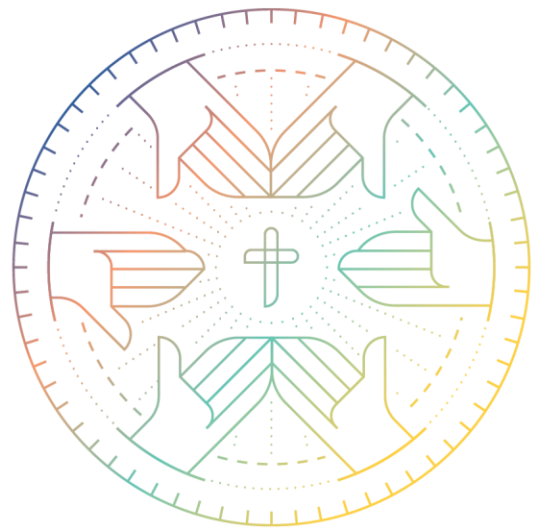
**Read Philippians 4:19.** Have you ever had a dire situation where you needed to fully rely on God to show up in order for it to be solved?

How did it feel differently walking through that situation with God on your side compared to other times when you have done it on your own?

*Host Guidance: Relying on God can be hard, but we must remember He is all knowing and has existed since the beginning of time. In all of that time, God has kept His promises to us and will continue to keep them. (Joshua 21:45 "Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; everyone was fulfilled.")*

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## INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

**Read 1 John 3:2 and Romans 8:28.** Declarations of God's truths are made throughout Scripture. Describe why speaking these declarations matters in our lives.

*Host Guidance: These promises encourage us to live in obedience to His ways in the present. Speaking God's truth in our lives recenters Him in our focus and allows us to invite Him into situations. By continually reminding ourselves of His promises and faithfulness, our faith grows, we gain more trust in Him and build a deeper relationship with Him.*

Our trust in God and desire to honor Him serves as the foundation to steward our finances and possessions wisely. Let's read some Scriptures that highlight the 6 declarations and discuss how we can be faithful to God.

**Read Romans 13:8 and Deuteronomy 28:12.** What do these passages say about managing money?

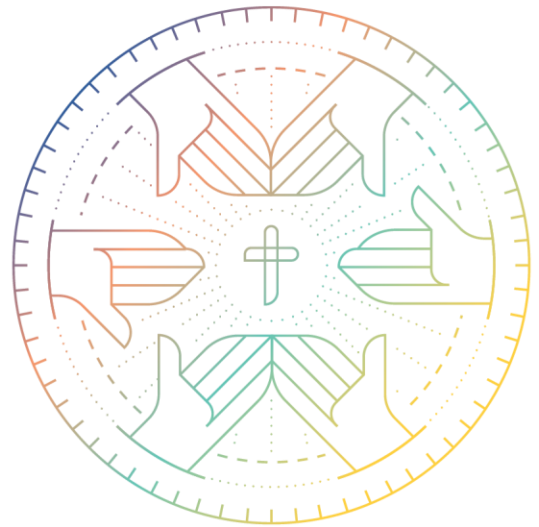
*Host Guidance: The Lord will provide as we see in Deuteronomy 28:12. Because we know the Lord will provide all we need, He calls us to be conscious of our spending, using it to love others and "lend to many nations". If we are conscientious with our money, we have the opportunity to love and bless others financially. We know life throws unexpected curveballs, but saving while we have the means is important and allows us to use it to later honor God and His people.*

**Read Proverbs 13:22 and Proverbs 20:21.** Though these verses seem conflicting, they actually complete the picture of God's lesson for us. What kind of legacy does God want us to leave?

*Host Guidance: We find in Mark 12:28-31 God's greatest command: to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our legacy as Christians is to fulfill this Great Commandment through all we have, including our finances. At the end of this life, we hope to hear the Lord say, "well done good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23). The world offers other legacies that focus on the self, but the Lord constantly helps us to refocus on Him and the greater picture, reaching His people.*

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## APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

Consider the six declarations below. Which one(s) do you need to focus on and how can you be intentional to do that?

1. I will **trust** God and His promise to provide what I need.
2. I will **name** every dollar in my monthly budget.
3. I will **eliminate** all consumer debt and live debt-free.
4. I will **save** deliberately through consistently wise decisions.
5. I will always **honor** God first.
6. I will leave a financial **legacy** beyond myself.

Paul challenged us to consider our financial legacy through the lens of four values: blessing others, investing in God's kingdom, teaching generosity, and remembering the eternal. Which value do you feel you can hold onto as a motivator to make progress as a trustworthy steward of money?

What next step should you take this week to grow closer to God in the area of generosity?

## PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Our Father, thank You for showing us the way toward living generously and lovingly to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please guide us to take practical steps towards living for You with our money and resources. We know You have our highest good in mind and we want to honor You with all we have. We pray all this in Your holy name, Amen.

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