

ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

David talked about running on the treadmill of bigger, better, more. What is one thing you've bought or spent money on, thinking it would make you happier, but later realized it didn't? How did that experience impact how you think about money?

Or

Share about a time when you felt pressure to keep up with others financially, whether through buying the newest thing or living a certain lifestyle. How did you handle it?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

David said that money has the potential to convince us that we deserve more. How does thinking we deserve more influence our relationship with God? How does living generously positively impact our lives and the lives of those around us?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

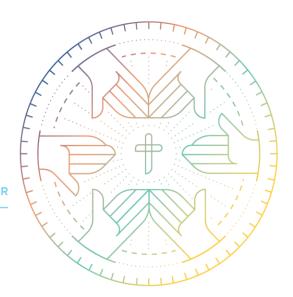
Read Deuteronomy 8:17-18 and Proverbs 30:8-9. Why is it dangerous to view your status and possessions as a result of your own merit? What warning is given about wealth? In what ways can we shift our mindset to recognize God as the source of all we have?

Read Malachi 3:6-11 and James 4:8. God says that when you "return to me," you will not want money to hold such power over you. What practices can you put in place to return to God? How do these passages relate to our intimacy with God and our desires?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, Proverbs 11:24-25, and Hebrews 13:5-6. What do these passages say about the fruit in trusting God with our finances. Do you believe that you can be more content living on 90% as opposed to 100%?

Read Mark 12:41-44 and Luke 21:1-4. Why do you think Jesus emphasized the widows giving? How does this challenge the way we define generosity and sacrifice?





APPLICATION (15 MINUTES)

Take time as a group to share your main takeaway from the message and discuss one practical next step to cultivate a heart of generosity and trust.

Pastor David said that generosity helps us fight the ongoing battle of desiring "bigger, better and more". What would it look like to practice generosity in your day-to-day life?

How does fear influence your giving? What is one step you can take to deepen your intimacy with God and thereby build trust?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Heavenly Father, we thank You for being the ultimate provider of all we have. Help us to recognize that everything we possess is a gift from You and give us hearts that are generous and full of faith. Teach us to trust You fully with our resources, knowing that You will meet our every need. May we resist the constant pressure of wanting more and instead find contentment in You. Guide us to be good stewards, using what we have to serve others and build Your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.