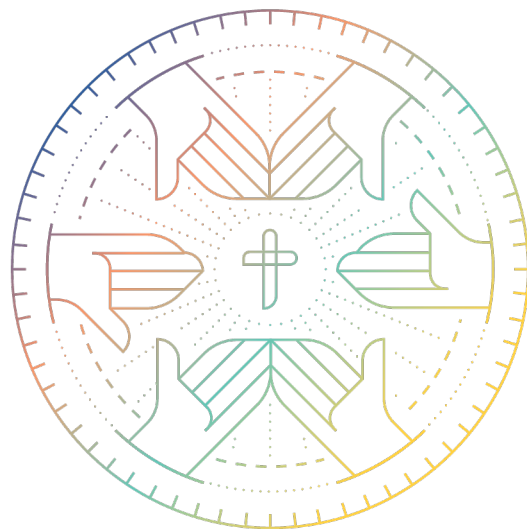


Group Life.

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ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

If you could pick between more time or more money, what would you pick and why?

OR

Have you ever been the recipient of generosity during a difficult season? How did that make you feel?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What stuck out to you from Pastor David's message?

Read Luke 12:16-21.

"What do you want your money to do?" How does this question challenge you with your own finances?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read Matthew 6:21, Romans 12:2, and Colossians 3:2. How do these verses relate to the statement "The best way for God to take possession of your heart is for Him to take possession of what you do with your money"?

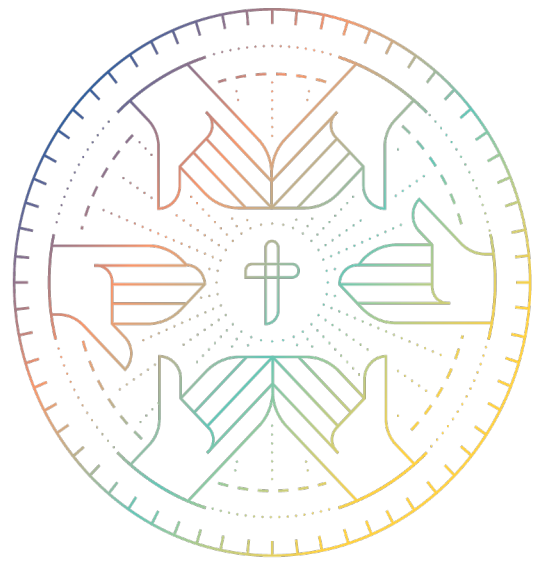
Read 2 Chronicles 31:4-10 and Proverbs 3:9-10. The phrase "consumption assumption" assumes all money and possessions are for our consumption. How do these verses demonstrate God's design for our resources, and His faithfulness to us?

Read Luke 12:21, John 14:15, and Ephesians 3:16-19. What does it mean to be rich toward God? Discuss how to apply this principle to our lives.

Read Luke 6:38, Acts 20:35, and Matthew 14:16-21. How do the first two verses relate to the feeding of the five thousand in Matthew 14? What can we learn from this story?

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APPLICATION (15 MINUTES)

Review the “Money Creed” (below) as a group and discuss practical steps you will take to apply this to your life.

- We will love God, not money.
- We will be devoted to God with all our possessions.
- We will trust God and live selflessly.
- We will find our security and significance in God.

Discuss some of the ways that “me first” living occurs in America. How can you instead put God and others first in order to “add meaning”?

TAKE YOUR NEXT RIGHT STEP:

Start each day with a time of praise, prayer, and reading the Bible. Ask God to help you find your meaning in Him and not your possessions.

Take some time this week to list out your income and how you utilize it. Compare your list to the priorities of “upside-down living”, and ask God to help you / your household to make corrections where needed.

Plan to attend one of the financial workshops this week at Fairhaven, or commit to ongoing financial education so that you can better honor God through your finances.

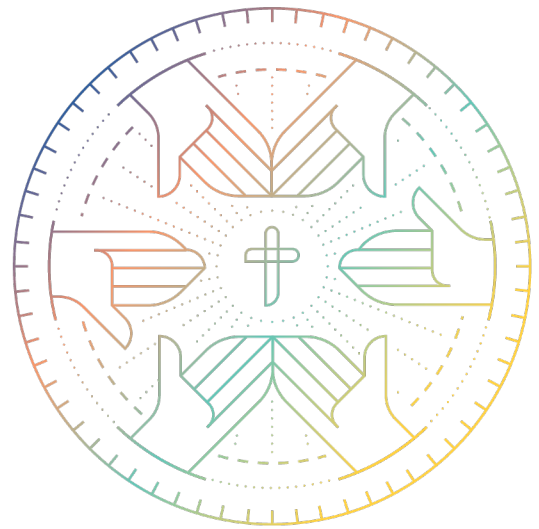
If you feel led, consider taking the “One Percent Challenge” that Pastor David mentioned.

Practice having a grateful heart and acknowledging God’s provision each time you spend money this week.

Ask God to show you how you can give your money from a broken heart.

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PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you that you love us unconditionally and that you know what is best for us. Thank you for giving us your Word to guide us in how to use our money and possessions. We ask you Holy Spirit to lead us, convict us, and correct us, so that our treasure would be in heaven. Please help us to put God and others first, so that our money would have meaning and honor you. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!