



IN GOD WE TRUST

WEEK 3 - THE JOURNEY OF TRUST

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

God intends for us to live in an ever-deepening relationship with him where we trust him to provide what we need, and we give back to him to further his mission.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:13-21

ICEBREAKER & OPENING THOUGHT

Keep the opening thought light. Most of us have extra money, and all of us are rich according to the standards of the world. The intention here is not to make people feel guilty about their extra, but to realize we all have it, and by being intentional with it, we can make a difference in our finances and in the ways we give back to God.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

What we want to bring out in this discussion is a way of being in the world that is non-anxious and not centered around our possessions, but a deep trust in God for our well-being and future. N.T. Wright puts it this way, "The kingdom of God is, at its heart, about God's sovereignty sweeping the world with love and power, so that human beings, each made in God's image and each one loved dearly, may relax in the knowledge that God is in control."

LIFE APPLICATION

Our western world tells us that money is the chief good in the world. We may strive for more money all in the name of happiness or contentment only to find that the increased money just brought on misery. It's so common for us to say money doesn't buy happiness, but we keep on trying. Well, we don't have to live that way; in fact, there is a different way to live outlined on the pages of the New Testament. The choice is up to us. Will we swim upstream against the cultural current, or will we keep buying what the advertisers tell us is important to our well-being? Generosity, though we may resist, is the practice that breaks the spell of our cultural conditioning of more money and more consumption.

CHALLENGE

All of us have room to grow in the ways we relate to money, whether it's our spending habits, our lifestyle, or a percentage we give back to God. Let's challenge one another to set some goals in these areas and revisit those every month to see how we are doing. For when we trust God with our finances, we will come to a greater sense of peace and wholeness with the world around us.