

Finding Financial Freedom | Week 1 - Less is More**Message Big Idea**

We can find freedom in our finances by replacing the lie that “more is better” with the truth that “less is more.”

Scripture

Ecclesiastes 4:6, Luke 12:15, Romans 12:2

Points to Keep In Mind

1. In your discussion with your group, remember that the way we relate to money is always a heart posture or an attitude. Just because someone has a lot of money doesn't mean they are greedy, and just because someone has less doesn't mean they are more virtuous in their motivations around money.
2. In Ecclesiastes, the writer is saying: One handful means a limited amount of something – a manageable amount. Two handfuls are more than can easily be handled or managed. In this case, having “enough” leads to peace, whereas always wanting more leads to anxiety and frustration because it will never be enough.
3. Jesus knows something we may not want to admit. We have a great capacity for greed. It is embedded in and revealed through our need for more. This could manifest itself in hoarding, entitlement, or overspending. Jesus was again reminding them and us that life is more than the stuff we acquire.
4. When we allow ourselves to have less, we naturally find ourselves more thankful for what we currently possess.
5. In Romans 12, Paul invites us to be followers of Jesus and make a commitment to transformation. We're not talking about simply changing a few behaviors or cleaning up your act. A Jesus-centered transformation is about becoming more of the person God created you to be, not just going along with everyone else. This is the work the Holy Spirit wants to do in our lives.
6. Some practical steps people may want to take are to live within their means. When we consume less, we need less. We may also begin to feel more content with what we already have. It might mean we change where we shop. We might also need to sell some stuff or get rid of the clutter around our homes. That can help you start a mindset of “wanting less.”

Additional Questions, Quotes, and Resources

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? communitychristian.org/baptism/
4. “Many people lose the small joys in the hope for the big happiness.” -Pearl S. Buck
5. For resources go to: communitychristian.info