

Small Group Questions

Week of Sunday, September 17th, 2023

Launch

Why do you think money is such a taboo topic both inside and outside the church?

We Give What's God's...

- 1) What sort of impressions or truths stood out to you from the sermon?
- 2) Read 1 Corinthians 4:7 and Deuteronomy 10:14. What do you think is so significant about seeing all that we have as things that we have “received”?
- 3) Zak mentioned that the idea of “everything is God’s” is a “no duh, no thank you” kind of sentiment. By that he explained that we know it, but don’t live it. What do you think the difference is between just knowing this and living this?

For Treasure and Transformation...

- 4) There are two kinds of greed: ill-earning and ill-spending. The first tries to make money in order to hoard it. The second makes the money you have all about self-indulgence. Which kind of greed do you think is more common? In which direction have you historically leaned?
- 5) Read Matthew 6:19-21, 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Is it strange to think of generosity in this life as storing up treasure for eternity? What do you think of letting eternal treasure be a motivating factor in a generous life?
- 6) Read Mark 10:23-27. Where in your life have you seen your heart follow your money? What happens to the hearts of people who give to good causes? To the church? To their community? Why?
- 7) In considering what Jesus has to say alongside the typical American abundance, Zak at one point said “Sadly, the average 21st American Christian will be one of the poorest people in heaven.” How would you respond to that?

In the Pursuit of His Mission

8) Paul's letters mention the sacrificial generosity of churches (i.e. 2 Corinthians 8:1-5) in supporting mission and ministry. What role do you think the local church should play in supporting other churches? In supporting missions?

9) Read Hebrews 13:16 and Proverbs 19:17. What do these verses add to the discussion about money that we haven't already talked about? Why does it matter?

10) Zak closed by sharing the importance of budgets in the discipleship process. Has anyone ever walked through their budget with you in a discipleship context? Have you ever walked through your budget with someone as you disciplined them? If not, why? What sort of positive impact do you think these kinds of approaches might have to offer to both involved?

11) Are there any comments that have gone unspoken?