



WEEK 1. LIVING SIMPLY

This past Sunday Pastor John started a new series on finances titled “Open Hands.” In this three-part series he’ll be addressing living simply, working diligently, and giving generously. The first sermon was focused on living simply, which is the topic we’ll be picking up this week for lifegroup. We’ll use the DBS format with some added questions, which you can simply give to your folks.

Possible Introduction Questions:

- 1) How do you typically determine what you spend money on?
- 2) What does living simply mean to you?

DBS in Small Groups of 3-4: Not Worrying (Matt 6:25-33)

25 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? **28** And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, **29** yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. **30** But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? **31** Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ **32** For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **33** But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Discovery Bible Study (45 minutes):

1. What do we learn about God?
2. What do we learn about people?
3. What do we learn about living simply?
4. What might God be trying to say to me through this passage? (Pause here to pray for each other over these things)

5. Is there anyone in my life who needs to hear this message? How can I begin to share this story with this person this week?

Group Practical:

As a lifegroup, let's take steps together throughout this series to live simply, work diligently, and give generously. You could come up with some ways to practically help your folks grow in these things or even open it up to the group for suggestions. Some ideas include: hosting a yard sale to sell things we don't need and giving away the proceeds, cutting out a daily/weekly expense and giving it towards a good cause, forgoing making a desired purchase in order to provide for someone's needs.