Series: Kingdom Economics

Title: Saving Faith

Text: Various

Accountability: Share about any ways you applied lessons from the previous week/meeting.

Conversation Starter: Growing up, what were you taught about savings? If you were not taught anything, what was your general approach to the idea of saving?

Synopsis: Saving is a Biblical principle that is not only wise, but is practically good for us. When we save, we have the opportunity to practice responsibility, plan for the future, and exercise generosity to those around us. Without savings, our lives can be much harder during difficult seasons. However, we must exercise caution in our savings so that we do not end up relying on our bank accounts rather than God. As followers of Christ we must remember that we are stewards of God's resources rather than owners, and we have a responsibility in stewarding God's resources well.

Dig: Read the various texts above

1. Read Psalm 24:1. Do you have a hard time accepting or believing that God is the one who is truly in control of everything? How do you feel about managing God's money rather than owning it?

2. Read Proverbs 21:20. Do you have a hard time saving? Or does it come naturally to you? Explain why.

3. When you plan and save for a big purchase, do you ever include God in that process? If so, what does that look like for you?

4. Read Luke 12:15-21. One of the biggest dangers of idolizing savings is that we can start to rely on our savings more than God. Has this ever been a temptation to you? How do you fight against it practically?

5. Savers are not better than spenders, and spenders are not better than savers. Each has their own strengths and weaknesses. Savers can be really responsible on the good end, but very controlling and stingy on the bad end. Spenders can be very generous and giving on the good end, and irresponsible and impulsive on the bad end. Are you more of a saver or a spender? Where do you fall in the spectrum of the pros and cons?

Application:

1. If you are not currently saving and are able to, practice saving this week.
2. If you struggle with oversaving, allocate a category for spending in the upcoming year.
3. Approach God in prayer this week and surrender your finances to him if you have not already.

Kid's Questions:

1. Have you ever had to save for anything? What did you learn from saving?
2. Read Luke 12:16-21. What is the lesson for this parable about saving? (Include encouragement about reliance on God over reliance on money).
3. What do you think it means to trust God with your money? Is there a way to do that this week?