

It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has lasting impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

The Gift of Simplicity

As followers of Jesus, we are not called to run a rat race, but to walk at the pace of Jesus. Simplicity is God's gift of freedom. Simplicity gives us freedom in every area of our lives: relationships, financial, health, spiritual. Read Luke 12:22-34 (NLT)

Don't simply live, live simply. How?

2 Mindsets (because we act on what we think) + 2 Actions = Simplicity

Mindset #1 – The Lord is my Shepherd, I lack nothing.

Psalm 23:1; Luke 12:31; Luke 12:24; Colossians 2:10; Matthew 8:20

Mindset #2 – Everything is a gift to me, on loan.

Psalm 103:15-16; Matthew 19:21-22

What race have you been running this past week? Share your personal experiences with lies that say you are not enough, enough is never enough, or more = happiness, versus Jesus' words: "You are enough because I've given you everything you need." What would help you to adopt Mindsets 1 and 2?

Action #1: Invest, Don't Spend – tithing and buying things for their usefulness, not status, are ways to invest and to start living simply. Review how your money and time were spent over the last month. Did you spend more time and money on needs or wants? Discuss examples of needs and wants, and the difference for you. If something is a want, what is your reason for wanting it?

Numbers 6:24-26; Matthew 6:33; Matthew 22:37-39

Action #2: Give Away, Don't Accumulate – Ways to simplify your life:

Give away – Develop a habit of giving something away whenever you get something.

Delete – Toss or delete what you don't use.

Box – Box up things you think you "might need later" and store them away for a set period of time.

Revisit the box when time is up and discard what you haven't used.

What do you want to delete, toss or box up (i.e., a thing, a person, a relationship, etc.) in order to live more simply?

Luke 12:16-21; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Matthew 6:19-21

Make it Real

- Memorize Luke 12:22-34. Visualize slow dancing with Jesus as He speaks this scripture to you.
- Identify one thing you want to do in the next month to live more simply. Consider relationships, finances, health, and your spiritual life.
- Tell someone what you decide to do.