

Session 6: **Simplicity**

PREP

Big Idea: You cannot enjoy the things you have when you are constantly pursuing more things to enjoy.

Group Goal: Help your group process one or two ways to separate impulse buys from purchases that will free up time for them to enjoy what they have (including their present relationships) more.

Facilitator Goal: Select the four questions that will best help your community accomplish the group goal above. You may use the following questions or come up with your own questions. Watch the clock and give adequate time to discuss these, filling in extra time with additional questions.

LESSON

Read Psalm 39:6. What lesson does the psalmist teach us about wealth? How do you resonate?

Watch The Big Church Read's introductory video for this session:
[Simplicity](#)

Lesson Questions

1. Are you aware of the gospel of consumption and can you identify ways in which you are affected by it?
2. JMC plays a game with his children to identify propaganda. When they see an ad, they stop and call out a lie. What are some of the subtle ways advertising lies to us?
3. How does materialism take our time as well as our money?

4. Did you think you struggled with materialism/ consumption before you read this chapter? Did that change after you'd read it?
5. "If you make \$25,000 a year or more, you're in the top 10 percent of the world's wealth. And if you make \$34,000 a year or more, you're in the top 7 percent." How does our wealth, relatively speaking, make you feel about our relationship to the world?
6. Which of Jesus' teachings about wealth and stuff really spoke to and challenged you?
7. Do you live by any of John Mark's 12 principles for simplicity (pp. 205-213)? Which appeals to you most and least?
8. How did you feel about the suggestion of simplifying your closet/ wardrobe?
9. What are one or two things you'd like to do to start getting intentional about practicing simplicity?

Conclusion

Watch this week's application video on **simplicity** for some ways your group can put some of the principles they've discussed into practice. Challenge your group members to try one of Comer's recommendations and report on it next week.



Ask your group members to **read** Slowing (chapter 10, p.219) and the Epilogue before your next meeting.

Pray

QUESTION SOURCES

The Big Church Read

Lifewords's Book Club - Community Church Huddersfield