

pocket change

Pocket Change 3 – Save Consistently Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again. I know you have always been concerned for me, but you didn't have the chance to help me. Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:10-13

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

That day Gad came to David and said to him, "Go up and build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite."

So David went up to do what the Lord had commanded him. When Araunah saw the king and his men coming toward him, he came and bowed before the king with his face to the ground. "Why have you come, my lord the king?" Araunah asked.

David replied, "I have come to buy your threshing floor and to build an altar to the Lord there, so that he will stop the plague."

"Take it, my lord the king, and use it as you wish," Araunah said to David. "Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and you can use the threshing boards and ox yokes for wood to build a fire on the altar. I will give it all to you, Your Majesty, and may the Lord your God accept your sacrifice."

But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing." So David paid him fifty pieces of silver for the threshing floor and the oxen.

David built an altar there to the Lord and sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings. And the Lord answered his prayer for the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.

2 Samuel 24:18-25

Reflection Questions:

- What's something that you collect or have a hard time getting rid of?
- If you had more financial margin, what would it mean for you?
- Michael drew some charts that show how our spending tends to increase when our income increases. What stood out to you from that illustration?
- Read Philippians 4:10-13. What word or phrase stands out to you? How is God challenging you through his words?
- What would it take for you to be content?
- Michael shared about simplicity as a spiritual practice; do you think of simplicity as something spiritual? Why or why not?
- Here are some of the joys of simplicity:
 - Simplicity roots us in the present.
 - Simplicity separates our wants from our needs.
 - Simplicity teaches us to enjoy things without owning them.
 - Simplicity teaches us to live in community.
 - Simplicity forces us to question what we value most.

Which one comes naturally to you? Which one challenges you the most?

- Read Matthew 6:21. Have you experienced this? What would you say is most important to you?
- Michael walked through a simple guide called 10-10-80: giving 10%, saving 10%, and living off of 80% of your income. What did you sense God nudging you to do in response to that vision?
- Read the story in 2 Samuel 24:18-25. What comforts you? What challenges you?
- What's a next step that would help you be more intentional about your finances? Use the free resources at www.wschurch.org/money to learn more about practical next steps.
- Take some time to be still and quiet with this question: "God, what would you have me do?" Write out your response to God.

Tired of money stress? We have some free resources for you that will help you gain financial freedom and peace. Visit www.wschurch.org/money to learn more.

Want to learn more about practicing simplicity? Go to www.wschurch.org/resources to see some tools for our Summer Slow Down.

Looking for some ways to grow and be stretched spiritually? Check out our highlighted resources at www.wschurch.org/resources. These resources can be purchased using the links or are available for a small donation at the Next Steps area on Sunday mornings.