

# Life Group Discussion Guide

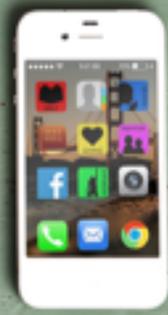
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

GIVING

Mark 12:41-44

Stuart Jones - July 17, 2016

MY  
FAVORITE  
THINGS



## INTRODUCTION

Dropping a dollar in the Dollar Club box, placing a check in the offering plate, children handing their coins to an adult in Kidtown, paying for someone's meal in a restaurant, doing yard and repair work for senior citizens, purchasing a needy family a grocery gift card, spending a Saturday helping with a food and clothing distribution, buying school supplies for a local back to school campaign, putting cash in an envelope to be donated anonymously to someone in need, helping to fund mission trips—all these are being accomplished by people at First Christian. What does it take to be one of these givers? A loving, giving heart.

## DISCUSSION STARTER

1. What is your wildest garage/yard sale experience? Did you get something really valuable for cheap? Are you good at bartering?
2. Do you have something at home you did not pay a lot for or got for free, but would not sell for any amount of money because it is so significant to you? Why do we place such significance upon inanimate objects?

## EVALUATE IT

1. Read Mark 12:41-44. What do you think motivated this widow to give all she had?
2. What was Jesus trying to teach the disciples? How does God evaluate a person's giving?
3. How did Jesus compare the actions of the wealthy people to the actions of the poor woman? Why did the large amounts of money given by the rich people not impress Jesus, yet He saw the widow's gift as something significant?
4. Throughout his sermon, Stuart said, "Giving is not measured by money but by spirit." What does that mean? How does that connect with the widow in Mark 12:41-44?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. How can you ensure that your attitude and motivation is right when you give to the Lord?
2. How does the story of this nameless widow inspire you, convict you and challenge you to give more?

## ILLUSTRATION

A church board decided that people in the congregation were embarrassed when the offering plates were passed. So they thought they ought to have a new system that wouldn't embarrass anybody, especially those who couldn't give. They asked the pastor to design a way of handling it so people could give as they came in or went out. So he built several interesting boxes and put them at each door. But these boxes were different. If you dropped in a dollar or more, it made no noise, it was silent. If you gave a half dollar, a little bell tingled. If you gave a quarter, it blew a whistle. If you gave a dime, a siren went off. If you gave a nickel, a shot sounded. If you gave nothing, it took your picture!

-Clyde Murdock, A Treasury of Humor



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?  
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

Jason Fox  
270-765-4994  
jason@fccetown.com