

# Life Group Discussion Guide

*NOW OR NEVER*

James 5:1-5

Stuart Jones - October 20, 2019

The logo consists of the words "BE RICH" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, enclosed within a white rectangular border. The background of the entire top banner is a collage of overlapping purple and brown geometric shapes.

## INTRODUCTION

It's often said the best way to find out what's important to a person is to check their calendar and their bank statement. We value our time and money, but it's easy to underestimate how much we have and how well we use both. Our focus this week is on generosity and gratitude. Most of us would agree these are admirable traits. Most would also agree they don't come naturally. Imagine what your home, your church and your community would be like if you and those around you were more generous and thankful.

## DISCUSSION STARTER

1. What does it mean to be rich? How would you define rich? Do you think that definition would be same for someone outside the US?
2. Our church is attended primarily by the wealthiest 1% in the world. Why are we \$252,000.00 behind our budgeted need?

## EVALUATE IT

1. Read James 5:1-3a. Stuart explained that if you have a household income of \$33,000, you are in the top 1% of the richest people in the world. Did you know the average household income in Hardin County is \$51,923 (census.gov). How can we know when we're guilty of living in luxury?
2. Stuart said, "The negative is not found in what comes in but in what stacks up." What does that mean? Why is the negative found in what stacks up?
3. Why is comparing our stuff to someone else's stuff such a powerful thing? What are the dangers of seeking to keep up, out do or amass more stuff than our neighbors? What does that do to our relationship with Jesus?
4. Read 1 Timothy 6:17. As the number one consuming nation in the world who addresses every tragedy with money, how do we not put our hope in wealth?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. How do you balance all of this? How do you balance an income that places you near the top of the world's wealthiest people in a way that puts wealth in its rightful place and Jesus in His rightful place? What does that look like for you?
2. How can you look at your neighbor's new \_\_\_\_\_ and not have a burning desire down in your soul to own one yourself? Moreover, how can we get the place where we don't burn for it, but be genuinely happy that they are financially well off enough to purchase it?



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

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