

# JESUS, JUSTICE, AND \_\_\_\_\_

*Week 4: Jesus, Justice, and Wealth*

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## INTRODUCTION

In each week of this series, we are looking at an area of our world where we hunger to see justice, and examining how Jesus responded when presented with an injustice in that area. This week, we're examining how Jesus interacted with the wealth.

Instead of our typical intro questions, take the time to do a few things this week, especially if you haven't in a few weeks:

- Remind the group that our ultimate goal is to walk in unity with Jesus and with his people. If things come up in conversation that hurt or offend, we are called to act like a family and address those hurts before they turn into bitterness and division. Matthew 18 is one great guide for this.
- Open group in prayer, and ask Jesus to give you humility to hear his voice over and above your preconceived ideas on this topic. (That includes you as the leader!)
- This week in particular, we're looking at our individual responses to the marginalized in our communities. If the conversation moves towards systemic approaches or political debate, feel free to redirect; that's actually the topic of next week's sermon and guide!

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## TRUTH

In this first section, we're going to read the passage from the sermon and reflect on where it challenges us.

READ: Luke 12:13-21

DISCUSS:

- Using specific verses from this passage, describe what Jesus is warning us against in this passage. Why do you think he is warning us?
- Where does this passage challenge or surprise you?

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## GRACE

It is easy to feel guilt or condemnation when we reflect on the ways that we tend to store up wealth for ourselves, and fail to be rich towards God. However, the gospel is GOOD NEWS - both for those who are rich, and for those who are poor.

### DISCUSS:

- Jesus tells us in vs 15 that "life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." What *are* the things that bring you an abundance of life? Is it your possessions, or something else? (This question is just meant to help you reflect, not to be a right/wrong answer!)
- What are some of the specific ways that Jesus has been generous towards you?

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## CHANGE

Of course, our goal is to be doers of the word, and not just hearers. Consider all you've discussed today, and think about these two questions.

### DISCUSS:

- What would it look like to make your money serve the meaning of life, rather than allowing money to become the meaning itself? In other words, what could you do to actively use your money to be rich towards God?

Close in prayer, asking God to shape both your heart and your actions towards the money God has entrusted to you.

\*Leader's Note: In the coming weeks we will be covering very difficult topics ranging from race to gender. It is important that as we prepare for groups and the conversations we will be having that we are taking time to pray for our groups and walking in the Spirit in the midst of them. Don't ever feel like you have to have an answer to everyone's questions. When you feel like you need additional wisdom and guidance feel free to reach out to your section leader or Sarah or Pastor Donny or Pastor Quentin. You can also encourage your groups to attend the Beyond the Sermon conversations that will be happening over Zoom with Pastor Adam on Sunday evenings from 7-8 PM. (Link to sign up for those is at [Aletheia.org/beyond](http://Aletheia.org/beyond).)

### Discipleship Check-In

- Have you read your Bible consistently the past week?
- Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?