

# COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Fall 2024 - Salty Church - "Fearless Generosity"

Monday, Oct. 7 - Sunday, Oct. 13 (Week 5)

**EMPHASIS FOR THE MONTH:** **Model Vulnerability.** As you are continuing to build relationships and trust within your group, my encouragement to you as leaders is to begin to model vulnerability. This will be essential for your group to begin to take steps towards going deeper with one another. If your group members see you "going there" they are more likely to follow your lead and, "go there" as well.

**ICE BREAKER:** If you suddenly received an unexpected \$1,000, what would you do with it and why?

## **CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. In place of weekly prayer gatherings for the month of October, we are encouraging everyone to take weekly walks around your neighborhood and pray for your neighbors and community. After Prayer Emphasis Month, we will begin to meet again for weekly prayer meetings in the month of November. We want to hear how your weekly prayer walks are going! Send us an email to [info@churchatbergen.org](mailto:info@churchatbergen.org) and share your stories with us. \*No weekly prayer gatherings at church for the month of October.
2. Our next Young-ish Gathering will take place on Saturday, October 19 at 11 AM. We will meet at Pennings Farm Market in Warwick, NY. Let us know you're coming via our Monday email newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact our Connections Director, Jackie Levesque. \*Young-ish Gatherings are targeted to those aged 20's-30's.

**PRAYER FOR DISCUSSION:** Leader or Co-Leader prays for the discussion time. Pray that the The Holy Spirit would assist in the conversing, processing, and listening of the discussion.

**SERMON DISCUSSION TIME:** Have someone read the passage: Luke 12:13-34, and then read this sermon summary to jog everyone's memory:

*In week 2 of our Salty Church vision series, Pastor McKinney highlights "fearless generosity" stressing that this aspect of discipleship cannot be understated, as Jesus frequently addressed the relationship between discipleship and money. He illustrates the dangers of covetousness and anxiety surrounding financial matters, drawing from Luke 12 to provide biblical insights meant to liberate us from fear. He discusses how Jesus addresses these fears by offering six reasons why Christians should not be anxious:*

1. *Life is more than our earthly provisions (Luke 12:23)*
2. *God always provides for birds and you are far more valuable than birds (Luke 12:24)*
3. *Being anxious is a fruitless endeavor and waste of time (Luke 12:25-26)*
4. *God cares for flowers and flowers are nothing compared to you (Luke 12:27-28)*
5. *If you become ruled by fear and anxiety you will be just like the world (Luke 12:29)*
6. *Your Father in heaven knows each and every need of yours and promises to provide for them all (Luke 12:30-31)*



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*Ultimately, Pastor Mike challenges us to view our wealth in light of eternal significance, living generously and fearlessly, confident in God's promise to provide abundantly. He closed the sermon with practical steps to cultivate a lifestyle of generosity, reinforcing that through conscious choices about money, believers can direct their hearts towards God's kingdom and experience the transformative joy of generous living.*

**QUESTION #1:** How would you define generosity, and how does it differ from how the world defines it? How does Jesus define generosity?

**QUESTION #2:** The sermon mentioned that fear and covetousness are barriers to generosity. Which of these do you find more challenging, and why?

**QUESTION #3:** Discuss the six reasons Jesus gives for not being anxious about provisions (*listed above in sermon summary*). Which reason resonates most with you, and why?

**QUESTION #4:** The sermon emphasized that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. How does this principle manifest in your life?

**(HIGH PRIORITY) QUESTION #5:** What fears do you have about being generous, and how do they impact your willingness to give? (*feel free to skip previous questions if running low on time to get to this question*)

**PRAY TOGETHER:** Spend time taking *and recording* prayer requests and then pray together as a group (*I strongly encourage you to send out the prayer requests weekly to your group to keep everyone informed and in the loop on how to pray for one another throughout the week. This also makes it easier to check-in with people who have shared requests to see how the Lord has been working in their lives*).

