

**Sermon Discussion Questions: “The Good Life” (Psalm 112)**  
**February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

1. What in the sermon encouraged you, comforted you, challenged you, or informed you?
  
2. Read Psalm 112:1, Proverbs 3:5-8, and Proverbs 9:7-10. What does it mean to fear the Lord and how does this relate to delighting in God’s commandments? How does fearing the Lord direct us away from pursuing self-centered versions of the good life and direct us toward reflecting God’s image?
  
3. In James Roberts book *Shiny Objects: Why We spend Money We Don’t Have in Search of Happiness We Cannot Buy* he says, “And yet Carter was spot-on when he told the American people, ‘In a nation that was proud of hard work, strong families, close-knit communities, and our faith in God, too many of us now tend to worship self-indulgence and consumption. Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns. But we’ve discovered that owning things and consuming things does not satisfy our longing for meaning. We’ve learned that piling up material goods cannot fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose. . . . This is not a message of happiness or reassurance, but it is the truth and it is a warning,” (pg. 40). How does consumerism actually diminish happiness rather than fulfill happiness?
  
4. In what ways does Psalm 112 call us to be a generous people and how does this counter the consumeristic message of over consumption and the belief that our identity is grounded in what we buy or own?
  
5. Read Psalm 112:4, 7-8. How does fearing and trusting the Lord affect the way we walk through trials and hardships? How is it that even bad news can be embraced with a heartfelt faith in the Lord?
  
6. Pray Psalm 112 together as a group letting the structure and phrases guide you along in prayer. Also consider reading these Psalms to prepare for next week:

**2/09** Psalm 112

**2/10** Psalm 31:1-15

**2/11** Psalm 31:16-24

**2/12** Psalm 105:1-11

**2/13** Psalm 105:12-25

**2/14** Psalm 105:26-45