

1. Get Acquainted: What's your bid? (10 min)

- Tell stories from auctions you have attended.
 - What did you bid on? Why? Win or lose? Where is the item now?
 - Any funny stories from auctions you have attended?

2. Worship: Learning to Boast in Understanding God (10 min)

God is the creator of all things and people are a big part of that creation. God made some wise and some simple, some mighty and some weak, and some rich and some poor. He also made combinations of each like some are rich, simple and weak while others are strong, poor and wise. The combinations are many and beautiful. **Jeremiah 9:23-24** ²³ *Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches,* ²⁴ *but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."* Praise God for the folks he has put in your life with all their varied gifts and skills that have caused you to love and understand the things that delight His heart. Remembering Jesus was each of these, a combination of contradictions, as He is the God-Man, who is the lion and the lamb.

- The simple and the wise
- The weak and the strong
- The poor and the rich
- The silly and sober
- The laborer and the overseer
- The employee and the owner
- The diverse and the same
- The talkative and the quiet
- The doers and tellers
- The cautious and the bold

3. Kingdom Centered Prayer: From the Worship Folder (10 min)

1. Worship the LORD, for His holiness as Owner of all people and all things, including us. Praise Him, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that He is willing to claim us as His own children, and that He gives Himself for us.
2. How do you live indifferent to the needs of people in your life while you chase more for yourself? *Confess your lovelessness to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and heal your heart – not only to love Him but to love His people as well.*
3. Give thanks to Jesus for enduring miseries and *murder*, to save us. Thank Him for being the Treasure that we can't afford, yet worth all we have and more – and that indwelling us, *He is the Treasure in the jar of clay*
4. Who do you know that is isolated and greedy (and it may be you)? Pray for them asking the Lord to break through their selfishness and the foolishness that comes with not opening your heart to anyone else.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to grow you in generosity, and to enlarge your faith in His power to transform you. *Pray for discernment and perspective to see God for Who He is, earthly things for what they are, and people*

4. Sermon Reflection: (10 min)

Introduction: Wealth – Making the untalkable, talk-able.

- Why is greed, like racism, a sin that others see but we don't feel in us?

God's Total Ownership

- What is easy for you to think God owns? What is difficult for you to remember God owns?
- How does the brevity of your life help you obey? How does presumption cause sloth?

Prideful Delusions – Delusion – a fixed false belief

- What is delusion, a fixed false belief, you have about your stuff?
- Where has God gifted you that you think more highly of yourself than you should?
- How can you use your wealth in talent, treasure or time as a tool to help others?

Hopeful Redemption - What is your life? What is it that makes you valuable?

- God bid Jesus to establish your worth to Him forever.
 - How can you enjoy that today?
 - How have you sinned against God by believing you are trash?
 - How can you honor God more by loving being YOU?

5. Mission: What is your life worth? What changed its worth? (10 min)

Read “The Touch Of The Master’s Hand”.

- Who are the people in your life that have cared for you and believed in you in such a way that changed your sense of your worth and value?
- How can you use the gifts God has given you in time, talents and treasures to bless them in such a way that they come to know and feel God’s smile and delight in them.

‘Twas battered and scarred,
and the old auctioneer thought it
scarcely worth his while
to waist much time on the old violin,
but he held it up with a smile.

“What am I bid, good folks he cried”,
“Who’ll start the biddin’ for me?
“A dollar, a dollar then two,
Two dollars, who make it three?”
Three dollars once, three dollars twice,
going and gone said he.”

But, no.

From the room far back a gray-haired man
came up and picked up the bow,
Then wiping the dust off the old violin
And tightening its loosened strings
He played a melody
Pure and sweet like a caroling angel sings.

The music ceased and the old auctioneer,
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said, “What am I bid for the old violin?”
“A thousand, a thousand,
Who will make it two,

Two thousand who’ll make it three
Three thousand once, Three thousand twice
Going and gone, said he.

The people cheered and some of them cried
We don’t quite understand
What changed its worth?
Swift came the reply,
The touch of the master’s hand.

Many a man with life out of tune
Is broken and scarred with sin
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd
Much like that old violin

A mess of pottage, a glass of wine,
A game and he’s traveling on
He is going once, he is going twice
He is going and almost gone.

But the Master comes,
And the foolish crowd never quite understands
The worth of the soul
And the change that’s wrought
By
The Touch of the Master’s Hand

6. Jesus From Others (10 min)

Close your time together in letting each person share something they came to love about Jesus from something someone in the group shared during your time together.

- What do you love more about Jesus from what someone shared during our CG tonight?