

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

Main Idea: You were made to invest your best in the kingdom of God. (Matthew 6:33-34)

Pastor Mark shared with us three ways we can invest our best in the kingdom of God.

- 1) Reject the lie that a self-centered life is a satisfying life.
- 2) Embrace fully Christ as Lord by surrendering your life to Him. (Matthew 20:28, Romans 10:8-10)
- 3) Walk daily in humble obedience to Christ.
 - a. A Surrendered life leads to lasting satisfaction. (Matthew 16:25)
 - b. A Surrendered life is sustainable regardless of your environment. (Romans 5:1-11)

Conclusion: Have you been seeking God to change your environment when he wants to change your investment? Are you investing your best in the Kingdom or investing in a self-centered life?

The path to investing your best in the Kingdom is through daily dependence upon Christ. What is your plan to practice daily dependence upon Christ?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Where have you seen people make the best of a bad environment? Why do some people overcome when faced with difficult circumstances while others give up?
- 2. When have you sensed God requiring you to do something that in the circumstances didn't seem to make sense? What happened next?
- 3. When you're faced with a difficult situation, which is a bigger temptation for you changing what you're doing when you shouldn't or not changing when you should? When have you seen this play out in your life (a specific example)?
- 4. Imagine you could talk to yourself ten years ago. You can't tell yourself what choices to make or anything about your future, but you can give yourself advice about how to make good choices. What would you say? In what area of your life do you need to take your own advice today?

Be It: (Small Group Exercise) Investment Matrix

Put one X in each column of the table (at most two if there's a tie). Then answer the questions that follow. After that, discuss with your group.

	Where do I seem to have the most going for me right now?	Where am I investing the most effort and attention right now?	Where do I need to see the most improvement three years from now?
Spiritually			
Relationally			
Physically			
Intellectually			
Financially			

- 1. Do you see a need to shift where you are investing the most effort and attention?
- 2. How can you leverage the area that is going best for you to boost the area that needs the most improvement?