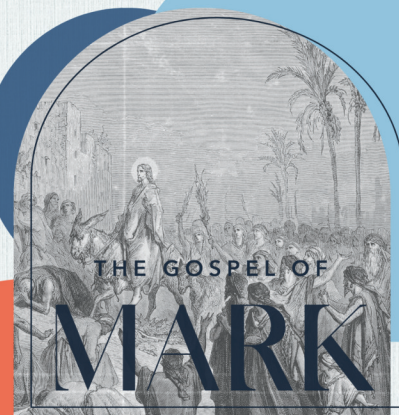


MARCH 24, 2024

SHARING OUR FRENCH FRIES

Pastor Roger Poupart // Mark 12:41-44



PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



41 And He sat down opposite the treasury, and began observing how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. 43 Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; 44 for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."



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REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?
- What, if any, Easter traditions do you follow or want to incorporate into your life?

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

GROW IN THE WORD

01. Jesus watched while worshippers dropped their offerings into the treasury. He carefully observed many rich people giving lots of money. Then, a poor widow came up and gave a paltry amount (v. 41-42).

- What stands out most to you in these verses? Consider how Mark describes each giver and each gift. Note the contrast between each.

GROW IN THE WORD

- In our modern day, which of these givers and/or gifts would you expect to receive more acclaim and gratitude?

- How do we typically weigh the value of a gift or offering, and how does that shape our view of the giver?

02. Jesus called his disciples to tell them about his observations. Jesus said that out of all the givers, the widow gave the most. Jesus explained that this was because she gave out of her poverty rather than her abundance (v. 43-44).

- What type of heart and mind must the widow have had in order to give the way she did? Consider Acts 20:35; Matthew 6:19-21, 31-34; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7.

GROW IN THE WORD

- How does Jesus' affirmation of the widow challenge how we typically view wealth, charitable giving, and significance? See also Isaiah 29:19; Luke 6:20; James 2:1-5.

- How do you want your thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and actions toward wealth and giving to change in light of this passage?

UPCOMING EVENTS

JOURNEY TO EASTER

Reading Guide, Playlist, and More!

Join us as we prepare our hearts for Easter by sitting in the heaviness of Christ being betrayed, forsaken, and punished in our place. Find the reading guide and service information online and grab a card in the Foyer so you can invite someone to join you!

HYMN SING

Sunday, April 14 | 5 - 6 pm | Fellowship Hall

Join us for an evening of worship as we gather to sing hymns. We are excited to set aside time to refocus and worship the Lord together. All ages are invited and registration is not required. We look forward to worshipping with you!

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Pray to begin your group time. Remind the group why you are meeting: to connect in meaningful relationships, to grow spiritually, and to engage in the life and work of the church together. Reflect on the values you want to share as a group (i.e. confidentiality, authenticity, grace).

CONNECT (30-40 MIN)

You can use these suggestions to foster connection and build community in your group. You can break your group into smaller parts if needed, pick a question to discuss, and let each member get to know one another.

- Spend a few minutes catching up with one another. Share highs and lows from the previous week or updates to prayer requests.
- Discuss the second question Reflect/Connect section of the passage guide or pick an icebreaker to begin your discussion.

GROW (30-40 MIN)

Gather back as a big group if you broke up earlier and have one person pray over your time discussing God's word. As you discuss, don't worry if there are questions left unanswered or unresolved. Reach out to ministry leaders or pastors for any needed clarification.

- Select 2-3 questions from each section. Pick the questions that stand out to you, and discuss them in order starting with the first section.
- Read any cross-references together and discuss.

ENGAGE (30-40 MIN)

Reflect on the biblical truth God revealed to you this week and discuss a plan of action to apply what you have learned. Gather in smaller groups of 2-4 again. Discuss your plan of action and pray for one another.

- Spend time reflecting on the application questions in each section. Pray together and ask God to help each one grow in generosity and selflessness.
- Close the group time by sharing prayer requests and praying for one another.