













Watch Week 2 LIFE Group Video.  
Videos can be found at [communitycannonball.com](http://communitycannonball.com).

### Opening Discussion Questions

1. What is something you would say you have sacrificed in your life?  
What did that mean for you?
2. What is something that would be very difficult to give up – something that if you were asked to give it up, you're not sure that you could?

### Further Discussion from Scripture

Read each Scripture passage below and discuss the questions as a group. You may want to have each group member journal their answer first in the lines provided below before discussing together, as a means of encouraging all to participate more deeply.

## Do Not Give To The Lord That Which Costs You Nothing

### Read 2 Samuel 24:18-25

*“On that day Gad went to David and said to him, ‘Go up and build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.’ So David went up, as the Lord had commanded through Gad. When Araunah looked and saw the king and his officials coming toward him, he went out and bowed down before the king with his face to the ground. Araunah said, ‘Why has my lord the king come to his servant?’ ‘To buy your threshing floor,’ David answered, ‘so I can build an altar to the Lord, that the plague on the people may be stopped.’ Araunah said to David, ‘Let my lord the king take whatever he wishes and offer it up. Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and here are threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. Your Majesty, Araunah gives all this to the king.’ Araunah also said to him, ‘May the Lord your God accept you.’ But the king replied to Araunah, ‘No, I insist on paying you for it. **I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.**’ So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them. David built an altar to the Lord there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the Lord answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.”*



In this passage, David is building an altar for the Lord. He is doing this for God, not for himself, and so he knows that the sacrifice won't mean anything (and won't even be a sacrifice by pure definition) if it doesn't cost him something.

1. When we give to the Lord, sometimes only we (and God) know whether it is a sacrifice or not. A person can give a very large amount to the church and it not be honoring to God if it didn't really cost them anything. God wants us to give in a way that changes us and in a way that honors Him. What would it take in order for you to truly give in this way? What is holding you back?

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## Sacrifice Begins In The Heart

### Read 1 Samuel 13:1-14

*“Saul was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned over Israel forty-two years. Saul chose three thousand men from Israel; two thousand were with him at Mikmash and in the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan at Gibeah in Benjamin. The rest of the men he sent back to their homes. Jonathan attacked the Philistine outpost at Geba, and the Philistines heard about it. Then Saul had the trumpet blown throughout the land and said, ‘Let the Hebrews hear!’ So all Israel heard the news: ‘Saul has attacked the Philistine outpost, and now Israel has become obnoxious to the Philistines.’ And the people were summoned to join Saul at Gilgal. The Philistines assembled to fight Israel, with three thousand chariots, six thousand charioteers, and soldiers as numerous as the sand on the seashore. They went up and camped at Mikmash, east of Beth Aven. When the Israelites saw that their situation was critical and that their army was hard pressed, they hid in caves and thickets, among the rocks, and in pits and cisterns. Some Hebrews even crossed the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were quaking with fear. He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul’s men began to scatter. So he said, ‘Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings.’ And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him. ‘What have you done?’ asked Samuel. Saul replied, ‘When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you*

*did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikmash, I thought, “Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the Lord’s favor.” So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering.’ ‘You have done a foolish thing,’ Samuel said. ‘You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. But now your kingdom will not endure; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the Lord’s command.’”*

2. Did you see what happened to Saul here? He basically tried to “pay God off.” How many times have we tried to do this? How have you done this?

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3. Sometimes we have disobeyed God or possibly haven’t truly trusted Him with where He is asking us to go, and then we just try to “give” or “compensate” our way out of actually having to love and trust God. Has this been you before?

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4. Doing a Cannonball is not just about giving money to the church. It is about something much more significant. It is about a true sacrifice of ourselves as we go into the water - a true giving up of us so that we can be more like Him...ALL-IN!!! Do you feel you are getting a better sense of what this will look like in your life? Share.

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## Give From What You Have

### Read Exodus 35:20-29; 36:1-7

*“Then the whole Israelite community withdrew from Moses’ presence, and everyone who was willing and whose heart moved them came and brought an offering to the Lord for the work on the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the sacred garments. All who were willing, men and women alike, came and brought gold jewelry of all kinds: brooches, earrings, rings and ornaments. They all presented their gold as a wave offering to the Lord. Everyone who had blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen, or goat hair, ram skins dyed red or the other durable leather brought them. Those presenting an offering of silver or bronze brought it as an offering to the Lord, and everyone who had acacia wood for any part of the work brought it. Every skilled woman spun with her hands and brought what she had spun—blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen. And all the women who were willing and had the skill spun the goat hair. The leaders brought onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod and breastpiece. They also brought spices and olive oil for the light and for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense. All the Israelite men and women who were willing brought to the Lord freewill offerings for all the work the Lord through Moses had commanded them to do...So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the Lord has commanded. Then Moses summoned Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work. They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing and said to Moses, ‘The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done.’ Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: ‘No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.’ And so the people were restrained from bringing more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.”*

The remarkable thing in this passage is the multitude of different types of gifts that were given for the construction of the tabernacle—jewelry, garments, anointing oil, skilled labor. Whatever each person had to offer, they gave. So much so, that Moses had to stop the giving because it was too much!

5. Often at times, our first objection when being asked to give is to say that we can't give because we don't have. Or "if I had more, I would give more." Or "if I had a job that paid better, then I could give." See, "not having" or "not having as much" are no excuses not to give. God isn't even asking us to give in that way. He is asking us to give from what we have. So what do you have, and are you giving it?

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Take money off the table for a second. Think about the other resources that you have purchased or that you have in your possession—your home, your clothes, your electronics, your season tickets for whatever team that you love.

Do you honor God with those resources by giving them over to Him? Do you use your home as a resource for the Lord? How could you better do that? Do you lend your car anytime someone is without? When you have extra tickets, do you try and sell them, or do you see how you might be able to give them away to someone who might be blessed by them?

6. How are you honoring the Lord with what you have?

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