

Watch Week 4 LIFE Group Video.
Videos can be found at communitycannonball.com.

Opening Discussion Questions

1. What does the word “surrender” mean to you?
2. Have you ever surrendered? When?
3. How does the world’s definition of surrender and God’s definition of surrender differ?

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.

The Tax Collector Surrendered Without Holding Back

Read Luke 18:9-14

“To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ‘Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: “God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.” But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, “God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’”

1. Who do you most resonate with in this passage - the Pharisee or the tax collector? Why?

2. Do you feel that you have surrendered everything over to God and are going before Him in this Cannonball initiative with open hands, or are you holding something back?

3. What makes you nervous as you think about making a two-year commitment to generosity for the Cannonball initiative. How can your LIFE Group be praying for you to help you overcome this?

4. Take some time to write down these prayer requests and pray over them right now.

Committing To A Life Of Generosity Is Not The American Dream. It's The Heavenly Call.

Read Luke 12:13-21

“Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.’ Jesus replied, ‘Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?’ Then he said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

5. Some people struggle with spending too much, and other people struggle with saving too much. Both are indicators of our desire to want to live the American dream and control our situations rather than to turn them over to God. Do you resonate with this passage and struggle with excessive saving or excessive control over the future?

What You Are Committed To Reveals The Nature Of Who You Are

Read Matthew 6:19-24

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness.

If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

6. Have you ever totalled up the investment you have made in the Church - not just in our local church as part of Community but in any Kingdom enterprise?

7. Have you ever thought about your cumulative giving like that? God sees it like that. As you make your commitment to the Cannonball initiative, see this as an extravagant investment into a lifetime of giving that you are making into the Kingdom.

8. How does this change how you think about your giving?
