Life Group Lesson - Week of May 21

Everything belongs to God. We probably don't think about it often enough, but we are here for just a little while. Our lives are a gift and each day is a gift. It is important that we learn to honor the Lord with everything we have. God has entrusted us with a wealth of resources—time, relationships, gifts and talents. Will we be generous with what the Lord has so graciously given us?

Read John 6:5-13

Giving all we have to Jesus, like the little boy in the story, moves us from greed to generosity. Joe Sangl says: "It bridges the gap from a self-centered, self-focused, selfish life to a fully abundant life" because our hearts are connected to our treasure (Matthew 6:19-21). So when we give to God's work, our hearts become connected to God's work. Because of his willingness to share, the little boy was a part of Jesus' miracle! Generosity opens doors beyond what we can imagine (Proverbs 18:16). Don't miss out on pursuing God's call over your life. Be a part of what He is doing.

- 1. When we give we honor God. Re-read John 6:8-9. It takes faith to believe that Jesus can do more with our meager offering. When have you struggled with giving?
 - Often our struggle with giving is in direct proportion to our unwillingness to trust the Lord. Explain how a lapse in faith can lead to a mindset of scarcity.
- 2. When we give we bless others. Read Acts 4:32-35 and discuss ways God blesses others through the generosity of His people.
 - There is joy in blessing others. Name one way you have seen this to be true.
- 3. Read Malachi 3:10-12. The Biblical standard is to give God the first ten percent of our income. That is why it is called "the tithe." Have you given the Lord a chance to prove His love and abundance?
 - If so, what are you learning about the Lord's faithfulness?

When you think about it, what a wonderful thing that the Lord wants to include us in His work. When Jesus saw the crowd coming He turned to Philip and asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" And yet, the Lord already knew what He was going to do. But He was testing Philip. And the Lord tests us. There is tremendous Kingdom work to be done, and God wants you and I to be part of it.

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Text: John 6:5-13

One: When we	give, we	honor	•
Matthew 6:19-21			

Two: When we give, we bless _____. Acts 4: 34-35

Three: When we give, _____ are blessed.

Financial Learning Experience: Sunday, May 21 @ 6 p.m.

Free financial tools at www.iwbnin.com



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