



Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

## USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.

### Consider...

*Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:*

#### Message Summary

*How do you wrap up a series about possessions? By talking about the greatest possessions on the planet: you and me! We've spent 3 weeks talking about how we should steward the possessions we have, but in the final week we want to learn how to steward the possessions that we are. James 1:18 (NLT) tells us that we are God's prized possessions!! We may have wasted the resources that we've been given, but after what God paid to purchase us, we cannot afford to waste the gift of grace that God has given to us.*

#### Discuss

*Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.*

- What are some of the reasons we give gifts?
- Have you ever given someone a gift that they didn't appreciate? How could you tell? How did it make you feel?
- According to 2 Cor. 8:1, what was the gift that God gave to Macedonians?
- Take some time to read the following verses. Take time as you read them to discuss what each one reveals about the gift of grace that God gives. Eph. 2:8; 2 Cor. 12:9; 2 Tim. 2:1; Rom. 3:24; 6:14; 11:6; Titus 2:11-14; John 1:6
- According to 2 Cor. 8:2, what grew in the Macedonians from the root of grace?
- What we've learned in this series is that God wants us to be good stewards of the resources that he's given to us, but James 1:18 tells us that we are God's prized possessions! The NIV says we're God's firstfruits - His gift - and 1 Cor. 6:20 reminds us that we were bought with a price - the blood of Jesus! God paid a lot to purchase us and to give us as his possessions to a world that desperately needs him!
- The end of 1 Cor. 6:20 says "therefore, honor God with your body." How are you stewarding your life as God's possession? How we live our lives is the return on God's investment! "Spend me, Lord, like money in your hands!"