



BiG iDEa: Jesus invites me to raise my quality of life in Him.

Growing Deeper this week...

Our lives are busy and fast-paced. A lack of margin can increase our stress and shorten our tempers. Take some time throughout this week to read and reflect on what God's word says on the subject from the Bible passages below. Some questions are provided for you or a small group of friends to provide focus for your reflection. Before your start: Breathe, pray, ask the Holy Spirit for help.

Identify

Think about one of the happiest times in your life. What were your finances like at that time?

Read

Scriptures to grow by... Leviticus 19:9-10, 33-34, 2 Corinthians 4:13-17, Luke 16:1-14, Luke 12:15, Deuteronomy 8:10-18, Romans 13:7-10, Proverbs 22:1, 7.

Reflect

1. What words, phrases or ideas stand out to you from the Bible readings you read today? What do you think God may be leading you to consider about how you managed your money last year? What would you like to do differently this year?
2. How do these words, phrases or ideas connect with your everyday life? What do they lead you to think or to do?
3. In the message, Doug quoted Andy Stanley who said, "You can raise your standard of living with debt, but you can only raise your quality of life with discipline." What is one challenge you would likely face in developing a lifestyle reduction plan? What might Jesus want to say to you about this?

Respond

Moving forward... If it is true that money can't raise your quality of life like financial breathing room does, what is one thing you can do this week to begin to create breathing room in your finances? How might greater financial margin reduce stress and worry while creating opportunities to respond to the needs of others at the same time?