

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. Go around the group and introduce yourselves and talk through this question: *“When you were growing up, who was an elderly woman that you admired or loved?”* *

Follow up. Did you get to share with someone about Jesus this past week?
Or how else did you obey Jesus?

Vision. Jesus told us to “Make disciples.” The purpose of our Life Group is: To help people become Believers in Jesus and grow up to become Disciple Makers.

Bible Study Introduction. Earlier in the same chapter we will look at today, Jesus told a scribe that the greatest commandment was to love God with all of our hearts. In the Temple there were offering boxes. And there were people who loved to make a show of how much money they gave when they came to worship. In Jesus’ time, widows were often totally dependent on charity.

Pray. Before we read the Scripture, let’s pray that God will speak to each one of us.

Read. We will read through the passage two times and then discuss it, so listen carefully. Get two people to read **Mark 12:38-44.** **

Discuss these questions, one at a time, encouraging everyone who wants to respond to do so. Remind the group: Keep your answers based just on this passage.

1. What stands out or surprises you in this passage?
2. What does it show us about people and choices we can make?
 - Based on this passage, what is the difference between the scribes and this widow?
 - What are some things people today might do that is more like the scribes than like the widow?
 - What does this woman’s action show about where her heart and her trust was?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - Rather than the amount each person gave, what was Jesus focused on?
 - How does it make you feel to know that Jesus watches everything you do in worship?
 - Is Jesus saying that we should put everything we have to live on into the church offering box? If not, what Jesus is saying to you through this passage?

Obeying Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we want to follow Jesus in whatever way He is leading us today. As we pray silently for 30 seconds, see if God speaks to your heart. Pray something like this:
“Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do with what You are showing me today?” [30 sec. silent prayer]

Remember to obey what God is saying to you. And this week ask God who He wants you to talk with about Jesus. Let’s close in prayer.

Closing Prayer.

Pray something like: “Lord, prepare the hearts of the people we will be sharing the Good News of Jesus with this week. And give us strength and joy as we follow You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

** If there are no new people, you can skip the “icebreaker.”*

*** Reading from different translations often helps.*