



LEADER GUIDE

LENTEN SMALL GROUP STUDY

6-WEEKS LEADING UP TO EASTER

Week 3

Sunday, March 4

Title: Household Economics

Scripture: John 2:13-22

Action: Audit Your Life

Prayer Practice: Journaling

Preparation for small group gathering: watch sermon from March 4

Welcome to the Group: (15 minutes) Check in with your group. Go around the room and name one place or moment where they saw God at work in their lives.

Have your group share their experience of using centering prayer and practicing Sabbath this past week.

Opening Prayer: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Opening Video: Household economics. (2 min) Press Pause on the video after Pastor Mike's introduction and questions.

Group Discussion: (15 minutes)

1. Read John 2:13-22 with your group
2. How do you think you would have responded if you were at the temple that day?
3. What was it that made Jesus so angry?
4. Take a moment to consider what Jesus might want you to drive from your life. Share with the group one thing that you need to cleanse from your life.

Video: Pastor Mike presents the Action. (3 minutes)

Group Discussion (15 minutes)

1. Have you ever spent intentional time with God, auditing your life? If so, what did that feel like?
 2. Here are some ideas for ways to practice household economics:
 - a. Minimize the amount of money you spend shopping, including browsing in stores and online
 - b. Try to plan your meals for one week around what you already have.
 - c. Get rid of things you don't use. Donate it.
 - d. Don't buy anything for a month. If you see something you want, put it on a waitlist and see if you really need it or still want it.
 3. Which one of these feel like an area that you would like to focus on?
 4. Where do you feel like you need to do the most work this week? Auditing your time, finances, relationships, or other areas?
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Hand out a journaling card for everyone to record their audit areas throughout the week.

Encourage your group to use these cards in their prayer time each day this week.

Prayer Time: (10 minutes) Introduce prayer as a community practice. Use whatever method you prefer, or use the example below.

Say to group: This is the time where we are able to share the joys and concerns that are on our hearts. It is our honor and privilege as a group to hold each other in prayer throughout the week. Please take notes during this time of sharing so that you may be praying for each other throughout the week.

Closing prayer: Gracious and loving God, we praise you today for the gift of this group. We are grateful that you have called us together to study and hold each other accountable. Thank you for the work you have set before us this week. Help us to be honest with ourselves and with you as we take a hard look at our priorities. Today, O God, we lift our joys and concerns up to you. We ask that you care for each of us, our families, our church, and our community throughout this week. Be with us until we gather again. In your son's name we pray. Amen.



Notes:
