



TOSSING AND TURNING

February 14, 2021
Next Steps: Finances

OPENING PRAYER:

Lord, we come together recognizing that we sometimes struggle with surrendering our finances to you. Help us in this time together to grow in our trust. Open our eyes to be secure in your goodness and provision. Amen.

Don't make money your goal, instead, pursue the things you love doing. Maya Angelou

BREAKING THE ICE:

Have you regretted that you bought something that, you thought, might bring you happiness, but it turned out it didn't? When considering a purchase, do you buy it because you want it, or you need it? What is the difference between "want" and "need"?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Read Luke 12:13-21

- What makes this rich man feel secure enough to say that "Take life easy; eat, drink, and be merry"? What is the basis of his security?
- Why do you think God, in this story, regards this rich man as a fool? Is it because of the wealth he has or something else?

Read 1 Kings 17:8-16

- The Bible tells us there was a great drought all over Israel. What does it tell us about the general situation of people at that time?
- What happened to the widow when she was willing to share what little she had with Elijah?

NEXT STEPS:

- The widow was willing to sacrifice everything, including the life of her child. Have we ever been asked to make a great sacrifice for God?
- While Elijah travels, he learns to hear and listen to the voice of God. How can we use the circumstances where we are conditioned to worry to instead listen for God?
- While saving and being prepared are both important, the rich man's problem was he cared only for himself. What mindset do we need to adapt so we might use our finances to love God and others?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

Lord, help us find joy in sharing more than in having more. Give us discernment in how we use our resources. Give us opportunities for generosity. Amen.