

Home Group Discussion Guide

November 21-27, 2021 – The Soul of Community – an Investing Community

Devotion: What is the current interest rate? If you have a regular ol' savings account at the bank, it's next to nothing. So, a good question to ask is, what's the motivation of investing if you don't get anything back? The difference between the way the world thinks of investing and God thinks of investing is in the <u>commodity</u>. For God, the greatest commodity we can invest in is people! When we spend our hours, days, and weeks on ourselves, we will only see a small return, but when we invest in the lives of our children and the young people in our church, we will see a tremendous return on our investment. Everywhere Jesus walked on this earth, he invested in other people from listening to them, teaching them, eating with them, and providing for them. Why did he do it? Because He wanted them to know the grace of the Father and He wanted them to imitate His actions. He invested all that He had in others and so should we.

If you want to have a lasting influence upon the world, you must invest in people's lives; and if you want to maximize that investment, then you must invest in those people while they are young. – George Barna

Scripture - Read Philippians 2:1-11

- Look again at the first 4 verses. What does the author assume we are receiving from our relationship with Christ and what are we expected to do with it?
- Look at verses 5-8. What are the lessons we learn from Christ? How is the example Jesus set for us an example of investing?
- How have you demonstrated the example of Christ this week or how have you missed the opportunity?
- Look at verses 9-11. The greatest investment we can make is bringing people to a place where they can experience Jesus as Lord of their life. What does it mean to you for Jesus to be Lord of your life?
- Who are you investing in or where could you begin to invest in the next generation?

How is it with your soul? (You'll notice that these questions are the same each week. This helps us develop a habit of looking for God and considering how we are responding to God's presence during the week.)

- Where have you seen God this week?
- Where have you struggled this week?
- How can you be open to God/the Holy Spirit this week?

Prayers