



**Heart for the House – Living the Abundant Life
Pastor Jude Fouquier | 03.17.2024**

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Luke 12:34, ESV]

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

[Acts 20:35, ESV]

'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Our use of money is one of the most reliable external indicators of where our heart is.

1. God owns everything.

2. We are stewards of all that God has given us.

[Genesis 1:28-30, MSG]

He created them male and female. God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth." Then God said, "I've given you every sort of seed-bearing plant on Earth And every kind of fruit-bearing tree, given them to you for food. To all animals and all birds, everything that moves and breathes, I give whatever grows out of the ground for food." And there it was.

[Genesis 3:1, ESV]

Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?

[Luke 16:10-13, ESV]

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

[1 Timothy 6:10, ESV]

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. . .

***"There is nothing wrong with men possessing riches.
The wrong comes when riches possess men."
- Billy Graham***

[Luke 12:13-34, ESV]

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain

and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

- 1. Live for the eternal, not the temporary**
- 2. Prioritize God's Kingdom**
- 3. Let your faith lead your heart**

[Luke 21:1-4, NIV]

As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

[Proverbs 11:24, MSG]

The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller.

[2 Corinthians 8:9, ESV]

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

[Romans 12:1-2, NKJV]

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Key Points:

1. Live for the eternal, not the temporary
2. Prioritize God's Kingdom
3. Let your faith lead your heart

Application for the Week:

This week, take time to ask God how you can be a channel of blessing to those around you and be determined to do it. As a church, we have a resource for you called the **90-Day Tithe Challenge** (Click [HERE](#)). Take your next step and see what God will do as you trust Him.

Discussion Questions

1. Briefly share a time when you were the recipient of someone's generosity. How did their generosity impact you?
2. In your opinion, how does our culture define the word 'blessed?' How does God portray blessing?
3. How does encountering Jesus compel us to give of our time, talent, or treasure?
4. What do you think about the premise that God owns everything? (See Gen 1) How does that change your view and attitude towards your possessions and resources?
5. What do you think of the concept that money by itself is 'neutral'?
6. When has your family generations lived with an abundance mindset or a scarcity one? What changed this pattern, or what will you do?
7. What does it mean to live with an open hand?
8. How can you personally be a channel of blessing to those around you?



H4TH BOOK: QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

Chapter 1 – WHY WE EXIST

- What is the Mission of The Father's House? (Page 15)
- What does it look like for you personally to be on mission for Jesus?
- How does your life calling, goals, talents, and gifts align with the "Great Commission" Jesus spoke about in Matthew 28-18-20?
- How can you purposely align your heart with The Father's House mission?

Chapter 2 – VISION: THE CHURCH WE SEE

- What is the Vision of The Father's House? (Page 22)
- How have you personally experienced the vision of TFH?
- Pastor Dave wrote about the church he sees. (Pages 25- 27). What points really resonated and grabbed your attention? Why?
- How can you purposely align your heart with The Father's House vision?

Chapter 3 – LOCAL CHURCH: IT'S A BIG DEAL

- What stood out the most to you from this chapter?
- How does God build His church through you and me?
- If the Church is a big deal to Jesus, why should the church be a big deal to us?

Chapter 4 – BELONG

- Do you believe the community the early church found can be replicated today? Why or why not?
- Have you experienced true authenticity with a group or another individual? If yes, how did that experience help your spiritual growth?
- What benefits have you experienced being committed and connected to a TFH group?

Chapter 5 – PRESENCE

- What stood out the most to you from this chapter?
- There are three keys to living your life in the presence of God:
 1. Repentance, 2. Feed your God-given desire for His presence, and
 3. Be intentional about making a place for His presence. How have you seen God's presence increase in your life when you applied these three keys?
- God's presence changes everything. How can you make your home a place where the presence of God will abide? (Page 74)

Chapter 6 – GROW

- Pastor Dave said, "You cannot survive in the spirit if you do not have a steady diet of the Word of God." Why is it important to be in the Word of God each day?
- Our faith is directly connected to the Bible. How can you grow in faith, grace, and victory? (Page 79 - 83)
- What practical steps must you take to have an "always lifestyle"? Always hearing, reading, and going deeper in the Word of God. (Page 84 – 86)
- Have you gotten sidetracked or become stagnant in pursuing God's Word? What next step do you need to take to grow and go deeper in God's Word?

Chapter 7 – GENEROSITY

- How have you been impacted by someone's radical generosity?
- The Bible has verse after verse that speaks to how God is committed to resourcing the "resourcers." How have you personally experienced this in your life?
- Generosity goes far beyond giving our money, and it is not a financial position; it is a heart condition. How can we be more generous with what we have (resources, time, talents, and more)?

Chapter 8 – EXCELLENCE

- What stood out the most to you from this chapter?
- Think about a time when you experienced excellence, which made a lasting impression on you. How did that experience impact you?
- What does excellence look like in your life, and where can you see yourself moving from mediocrity to excellence?
- How does bringing our best reflect the nature and character of God to the world around us?

Chapter 9 – OUR CITY

- Actions speak louder than words. How can we show the tangible love of Jesus to our city?
- What does faith look like in the public? How is serving others tied to living a life of faith?
- Invest your most precious commodity, your time, to serve the “least of these” and help reveal Jesus to a hurting world. Have you found a place to serve?

Chapter 10 – GO

- What stood out the most to you from this chapter?
- Have you been involved in a local or global Impact Trip where you crossed cultural barriers and economic classes, leaving your comfort zone and entering your faith zone? Briefly share what that was like.
- Jesus said, “Go.” Have you considered partnering with Global Reach or going on an Impact Trip to another nation?
- ***For More Information, direct your group members to www.tfh.org/globalreach**

Chapter 11 – ENJOY THE JOURNEY

- Take a moment to reflect; Selah: Am I enjoying the journey of my life?
- Have each group member make a list of things that bring them joy and a list of things that might be stealing their joy.
- What adjustments and changes do you need to make in order to enjoy the journey of your life?

Chapter 12 – SUPPORTING THE HOUSE

- What stood out the most to you from this chapter?
- Have you ever received a blessing on the other side of giving?
- What is something you have been believing for? Could it be possible that tithing is a key to your breakthrough?
- **Information on 90-Day-Tithe-Challenge can be found at: <https://www.tfh.org/tithechallenge>**

Chapter 13 – MEMBERSHIP: THE CHURCH I WANT TO JOIN

- In what ways can you use your God-given talents and gifts to contribute as part of the Body of Christ?
- Leaders: Encourage your members to sign up for Discover if they haven't already done so. Consider attending with them to make that transition easier.
- **Information on Discover and registration can be found at:**
<https://www.tfh.org/discover>