

not a fan.

**Pastor Dave Patterson
not a fan.
Part 4: An Invested Life**

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

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.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

The life of a follower is continuous. It is not a string of events; it is a lifestyle. Followers live an invested life in the things that matter.

[Luke 9.23]

Then He said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you're going to have to deny yourself, take up your cross daily, and follow me."

[Luke 12.13-21]

*Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me." Jesus replied, "**Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?**" Then he said, "**Beware!**"*

*Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own." Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.' Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!" But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' So it is with the one who continues to lay up and hoard possessions for himself and is not rich toward God...And don't be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don't worry about such things. These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers all over the world, but your Father already knows your needs. **Seek the Kingdom of God above all else**, and he will give you everything you need.*

[Luke 12.34]

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

You cannot be a non-serving Christian; there is no such thing!

GIVING 1.0

Giving directly to something that will help immediately (**Intervention giving**)

GIVING 2.0

The consistent, percentage giving of committed believers that invest in and sustain great churches and ministries (**Prevention giving**)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What distinguishes following Christ from a hobby, a fascination, or a fleeting curiosity? What kind of commitment is required?**
- 2. What are some things that you are invested in? Which are a result of information? Which of these are relationally-based?**
- 3. How does prioritizing the things of God bring provision to your personal needs? (upside-down kingdom-living)**
- 4. Why does faithful, strategic investment have such a profound impact on the advancement of the Kingdom of God? What capacity would the church have beyond our own walls, if every individual was living an invested life? How do you measure the level of influence of a life-giving local church? How is 2.0 GIVING (Prevention Giving) hard to measure the results? (poor decisions and disasters averted)**
- 5. Share some of the stories of saved marriages, students choosing to follow Jesus, etc. that resulted from the "non-glamorous" ministries that happen behind the scenes every week because of faithful giving.**