

# WEEK THREE: OPEN HANDS

## CONVERSATION STARTER:

If you had to lose one of your fingers, which would you give up?

## ► PLAY VIDEO

## READ & DISCUSS: [Luke 12:13-15](#)

What do you think Jesus meant by “all types of greed”?

## ASK GROUP MEMBERS TO READ:

We’ve seen how the mind influences the heart and how from the heart flows all that we do. So, let’s look at one of those familiar heart postures that leads us to do and say all kinds of destructive things: greed.

Greed has the power to make its way into all areas of our lives. We covet looks. We covet skills and personalities. We covet this person’s job and that person’s children and their relationship. Maybe, most obvious, we covet what people have. Their possessions and wealth. There seems to be no end to our ability to compare and be disappointed with the comparison.

But Jesus invites us into a different way of thinking. He invites us into freedom from comparison; into gratitude for the good we’ve been entrusted with. Jesus brings reality into our endless pursuit for more, by reminding us that the value of a person’s life is not found in what they have. That it is far better to give and help a brother than to white knuckle things that are wasting away.

But this isn’t always easy to live out. It requires deep faith to trust God when he says that he is better than the thing you are coveting. And it requires deep faith to believe him when he says that his way of surrender actually leads to life and deeper provisions.

But ask anyone who has the “thing” you think you need for contentment, and you’ll find their search hasn’t ended either. We were made for something that the jewels of this world simply can’t satisfy. When we let go of that pursuit and take Jesus at his word that he is better than all of it, we find what a joy it is to give and live generously with the things we’ve been given.

*Open*

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) When was a time that giving up something for the sake of another blessed you?
- 2) What is difficult to believe about the promise that gaining Christ is far better than gaining the things of this world?
- 3) What in your life are you white knuckling that you need to surrender to God?
- 4) Who can you bring into your process of surrendering this over to God?

### **INSIDE THE BOX**

- 1) Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a possession, skill, or talent that you need to surrender so God can use it for His Kingdom.
- 2) Read each passage and highlight what sticks out to you.
- 3) Pray the Holy Spirit would reveal how you can use your blessings to bless others.

- **MATTHEW 6:19-21**
- **LUKE 12:13-21**
- **1 JOHN 3:16-18**
- **PSALM 37:7-9**
- **1 TIMOTHY 6: 6-10**
- **ACTS 20:35**

*Open*