



THE CITY  
CHURCH

# Small Group Notes

Sermon: 11 September 2022



# SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:41-44

## OVERVIEW

On Sunday Martin continued our Follow me series looking at how we follow Christ with our money.

In the passage, Jesus is in the temple, watching people give their money into the treasury.

Jesus highlights two kinds of people: the rich who put in large sums, and the widow who put in two coins.

Jesus celebrates the widows offering, giving us a model for how to follow God with our money.

We looked at how Jesus saw the giving and celebrated 3 things:

### **1. Sacrifice**

The rich gave out of their abundance, whereas the widow gave out of her poverty. Giving came at a cost to the widow, and Jesus honoured the sacrifice. The call to follow Jesus is a call to sacrifice, to put first the Kingdom of God and count everything as loss compared to Christ.

### **2. Affection**

The rich gave their money to impress those around them, whereas the widow gave out of affection for God. Her love for God overflowed into her giving. We can slip into seeing giving as a performance in 1 of 3 ways

**A.** Performing for God - Trying to prove to God we are good enough

**B.** Performing for others - Trying to show others that we are impressive

**C.** Performing for ourselves - Trying to appease guilt and shame we may be feeling.

Yet God wants cheerful givers who give because they love God more than they love money.

### **3. Worship**

The rich contributed but the widow gave everything. Worship isn't just a contribution. Following Jesus isn't just part of your life - it is everything. We are called to be those who give as an act of worship, giving our all to Jesus, holding nothing back and seeking to prioritise Him.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What reaction does the topic of money bring out in you? Why do you think that is?
2. Are there any fears you carry around your finances that hinder you from excelling in the grace of giving?
3. What would it look like for you to grow in giving your money sacrificially to God this year?
4. How can we grow in seeing our giving as an act of worship and affection to Christ?