

Lord, make us channels of disturbance.
Where there is apathy, let us provoke;
Where there is compliance, let us bring questioning.
Where there is silence, may we be a voice.
Where there is too much comfort
and too little action, grant disruption.
Where there are doors closed and hearts locked,
grant the willingness to listen.

Opening Prayer

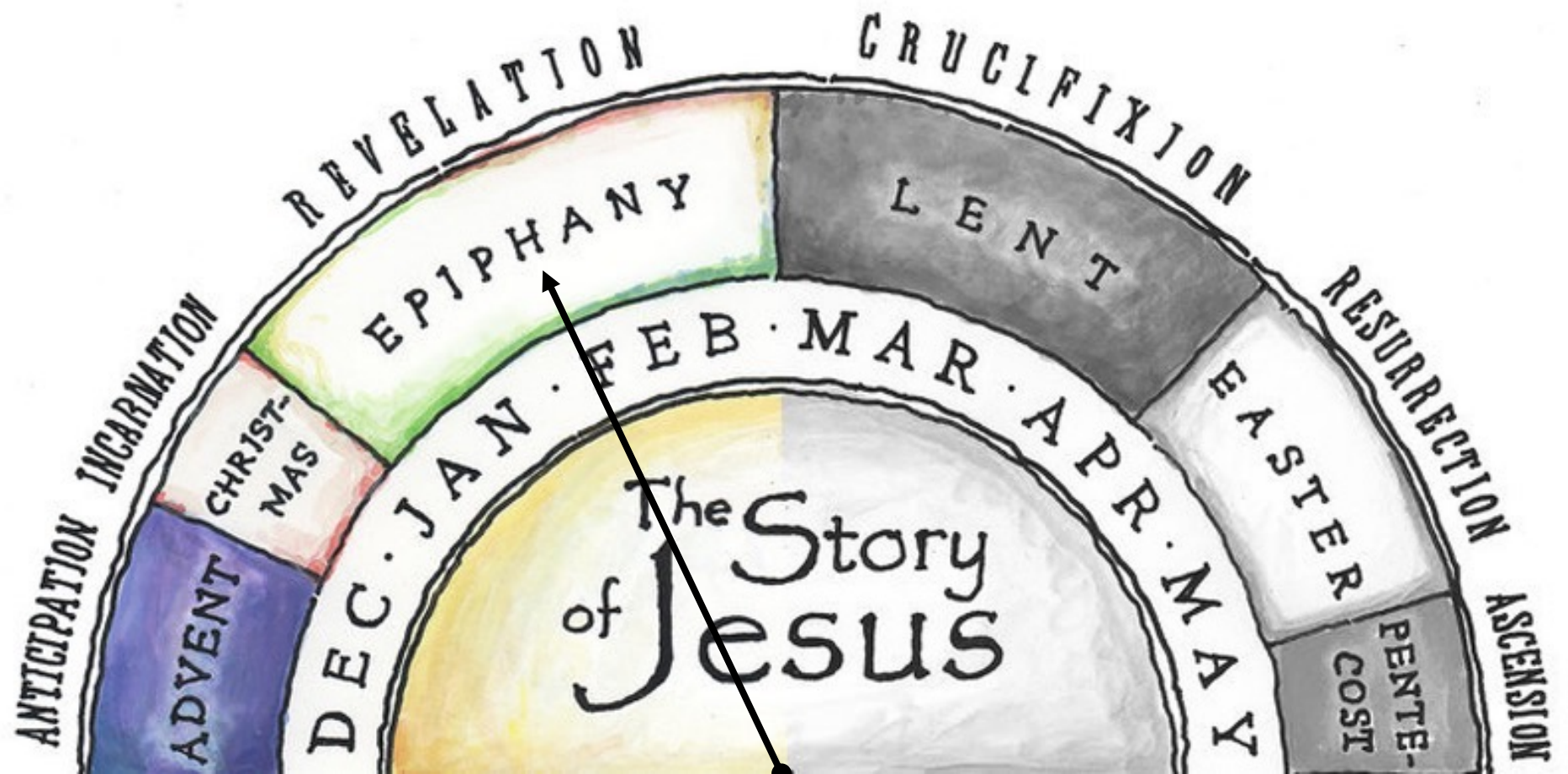


When laws dictate and pain is overlooked...
When tradition speaks louder than need...
Grant that we may seek rather to do justice
than to talk about it.
Disturb us, O Lord:
to be with, as well as for, the alienated;
to love the unlovable, as well as the lovely.
Lord, make us channels of holy disturbance. Amen.

Opening Prayer



CHURCH CALENDAR



THE PRACTICE OF GENEROSITY

Week 1: Joy

Week 2: Simplicity

Week 3: Stewardship

Week 4: Sharing



Expert estimates suggest consumers are exposed to anywhere from 4,000 to 10,000 ads daily. This includes (ads) in all of (their) forms, from traditional media such as TV and billboards to digital marketing sources like social media, websites, and search engines.

THE AGE OF SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM

**THE FIGHT FOR A
HUMAN FUTURE
AT THE NEW
FRONTIER OF POWER**

**SHOSHANA
ZUBOFF**

Industrial capitalism transformed nature's raw materials into commodities, and surveillance capitalism lays its claims to the stuff of human nature for a new commodity invention: us. The essence of the exploitation here is the rendering of our lives as behavioral data for the sake of others' improved control of us.

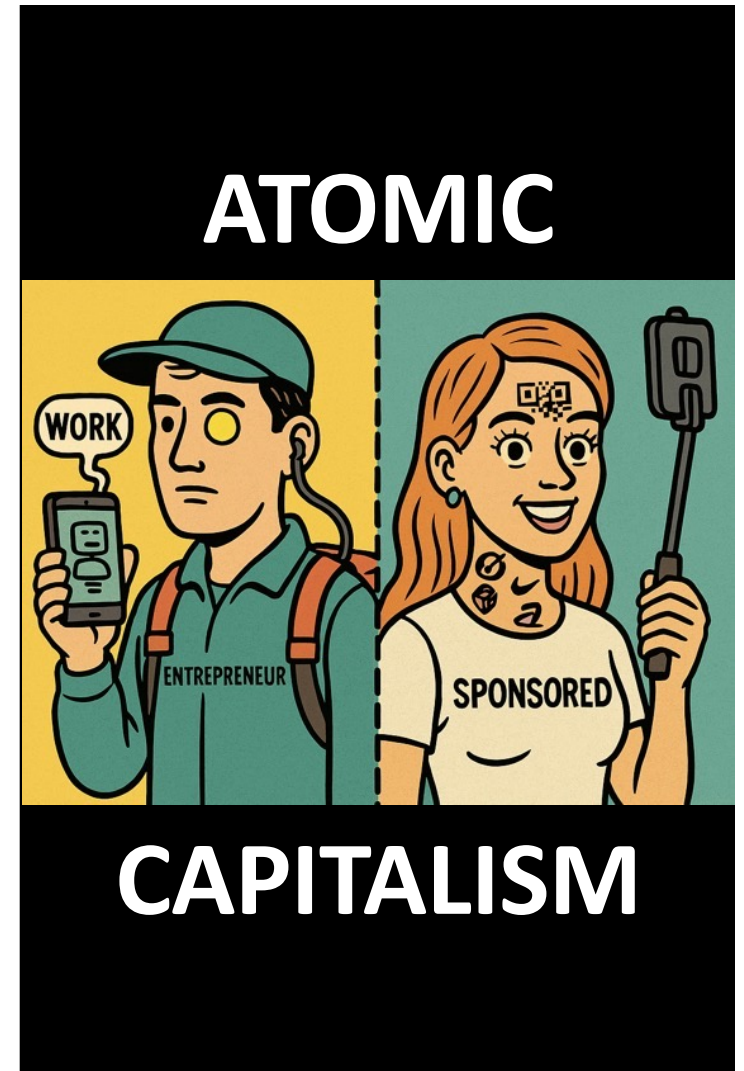
THE AGE OF SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM

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Worker/Capitalist merge into one
(think solo entrepreneurs running
AI-fueled companies or gig
workers owning their cars).

Consumer/Commodity also fuse
(we literally turn ourselves into
products —as influencers selling
our lifestyles, or platforms mining
our personal data).



HEDONIC TREADMILL

We quickly return to a relatively stable level of happiness or sadness despite major positive or negative events/life changes. as a person makes more money, their expectations/ desires rise in tandem, which results in no permanent gain in happiness.



ECCLESIASTES 5:10

*Whoever loves money
never has enough;
whoever loves wealth
is never satisfied
with their income.*

HOLY
BIBLE

LUKE 12:15a

*Then he said to them,
“Watch out! Be on your guard
against all kinds of greed.*

HOLY
BIBLE

GREED

The insatiable desire
for more than we
either want or need



HOMER

You know Mr. Burns,
you're the richest
guy I know.

MR. BURNS

Oh, yes. But I'd trade it
all for just a little more...



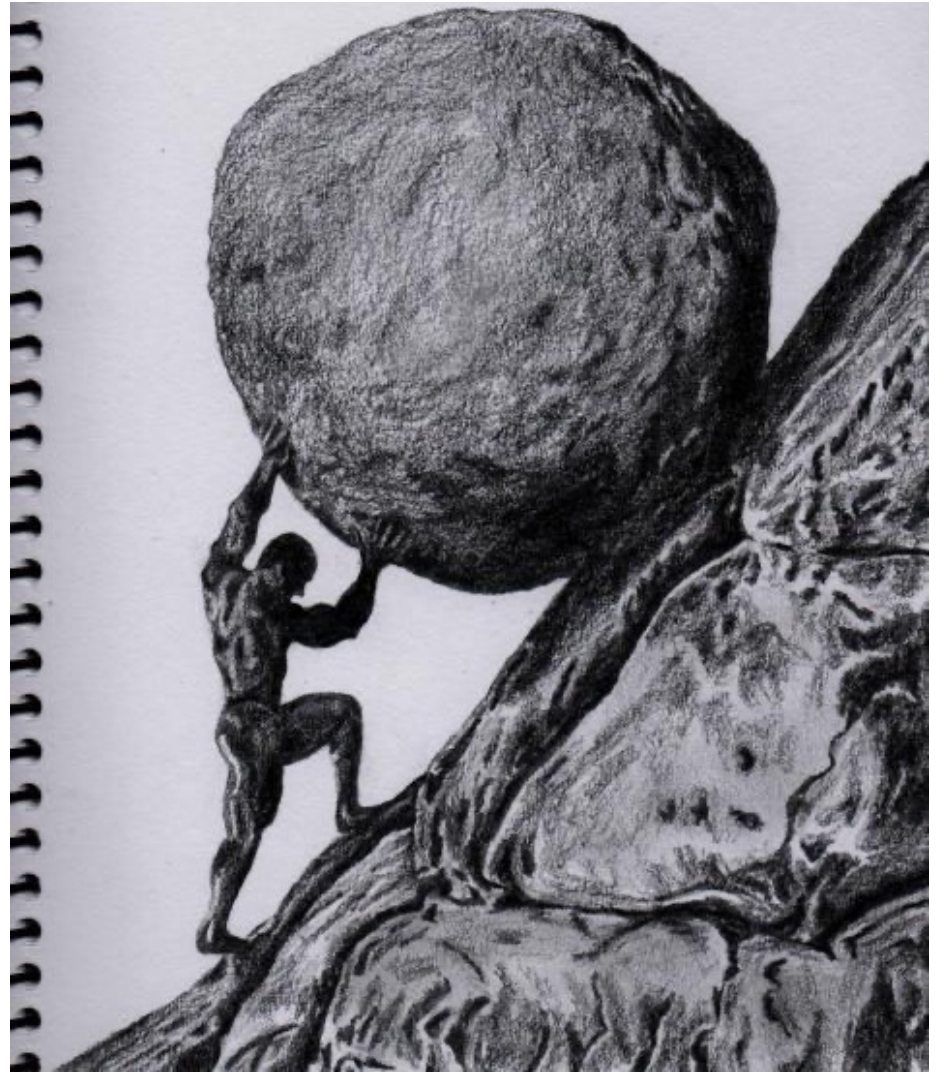
GREED

The “original sin” behind:

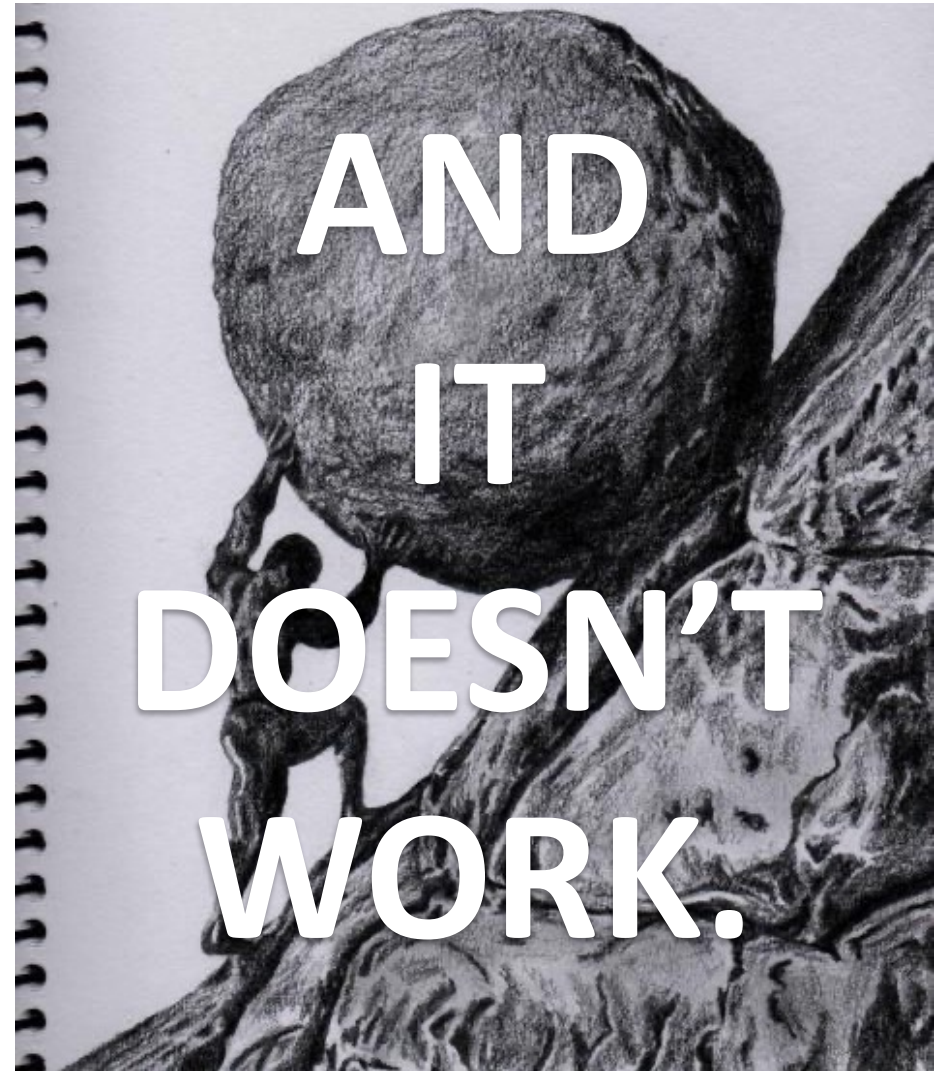
- Slavery
- Westward expansion
- Industrial military complex
- Wars for oil
- 2008 financial crisis
- Online sports gambling



Late-stage capitalistic greed leads us to give our lives to our work, convinces us our value is only found as “producer” or “consumer,” (often for the benefit of those already fabulously rich), so we spend more than we have, to buy more than we need...



Late-stage capitalistic greed leads us to give our lives to our work, convinces us our value is only found as “producer” or “consumer,” (often for the benefit of those already fabulously rich), so we spend more than we have, to buy more than we need...



LUKE 12:15

*Then he said to them,
“Watch out! Be on your guard
against all kinds of greed.
Life does not consist in an
abundance of possessions.”*

HOLY
BIBLE

1. Money can provide for our basic human needs, but it cannot buy happiness at the level of meaning/identity

JESUS AND



MONEY

MARK 4:18-19

*Still others, like seed sown among thorns,
hear the word; but the worries of this life,
the deceitfulness of wealth and
the desires for other things come in
and choke the word, making it unfruitful.*

HOLY
BIBLE

1. Money can provide for our basic human needs, but it cannot buy happiness at the level of meaning/identity
2. Wealth is an obstacle on the path, not the goal of the path

JESUS AND



MONEY

MATTHEW 19:23-24

*Then Jesus said to his disciples,
“Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone
who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.
Again, I tell you, it is easier for a camel
to go through the eye of a needle
than for someone who is rich
to enter the kingdom of God.”*

HOLY
BIBLE

1. Money can provide for our basic human needs, but it cannot buy happiness at the level of meaning/identity
2. Wealth is an obstacle on the path, not the goal of the path
3. Provision and generosity, not accumulation, is the goal

JESUS AND



MONEY

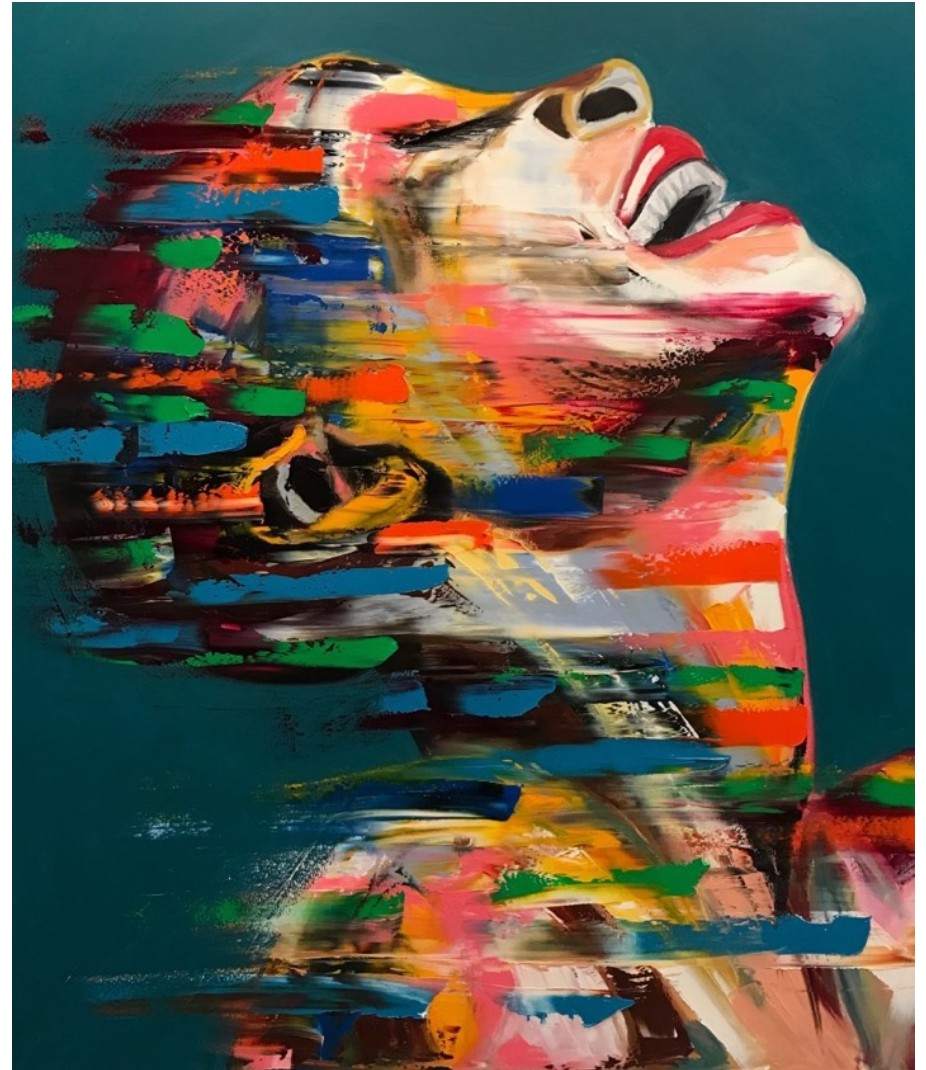
LUKE 11:38-41

...the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal. Then the Lord said to him, "...you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.

HOLY
BIBLE

CONTENTMENT

Being happy and grateful
for what you have,
and freedom from the
constant/desperate
need for more



1 TIMOTHY 6:6-8

*But godliness with contentment
is great gain. For we brought nothing
into the world, and we can take nothing
out of it. But if we have food and clothing,
we will be content with that.*

HOLY
BIBLE

1 TIMOTHY 6:9-10a

*Those who want to get rich
fall into temptation and a trap
and into many foolish and harmful
desires that plunge people into
ruin and destruction. For the love
of money is a root of all kinds of evil.*

HOLY
BIBLE

1 TIMOTHY 6:9-10

Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

HOLY
BIBLE

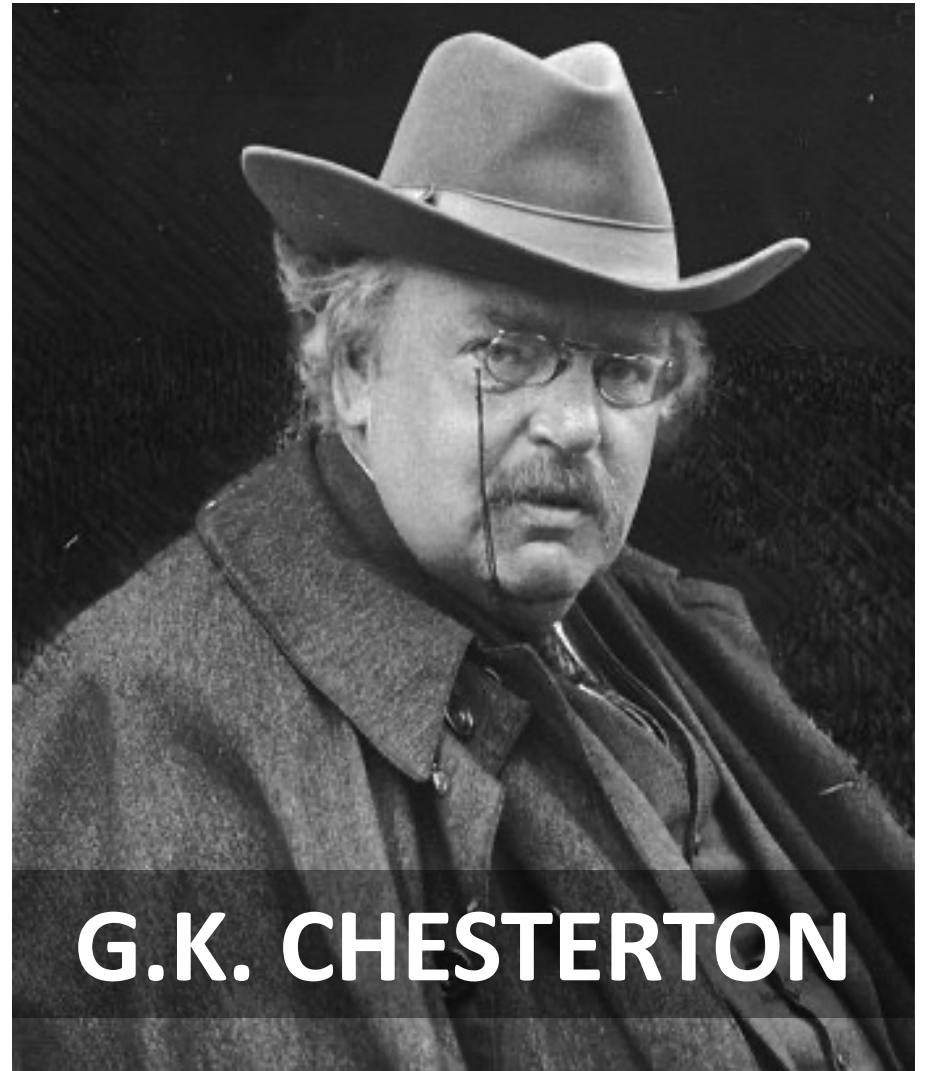
GENEROSITY

Growing in
Christlikeness
means setting
healthy limits
(boundaries)
leading to
the freedom
to *be* generous

Give

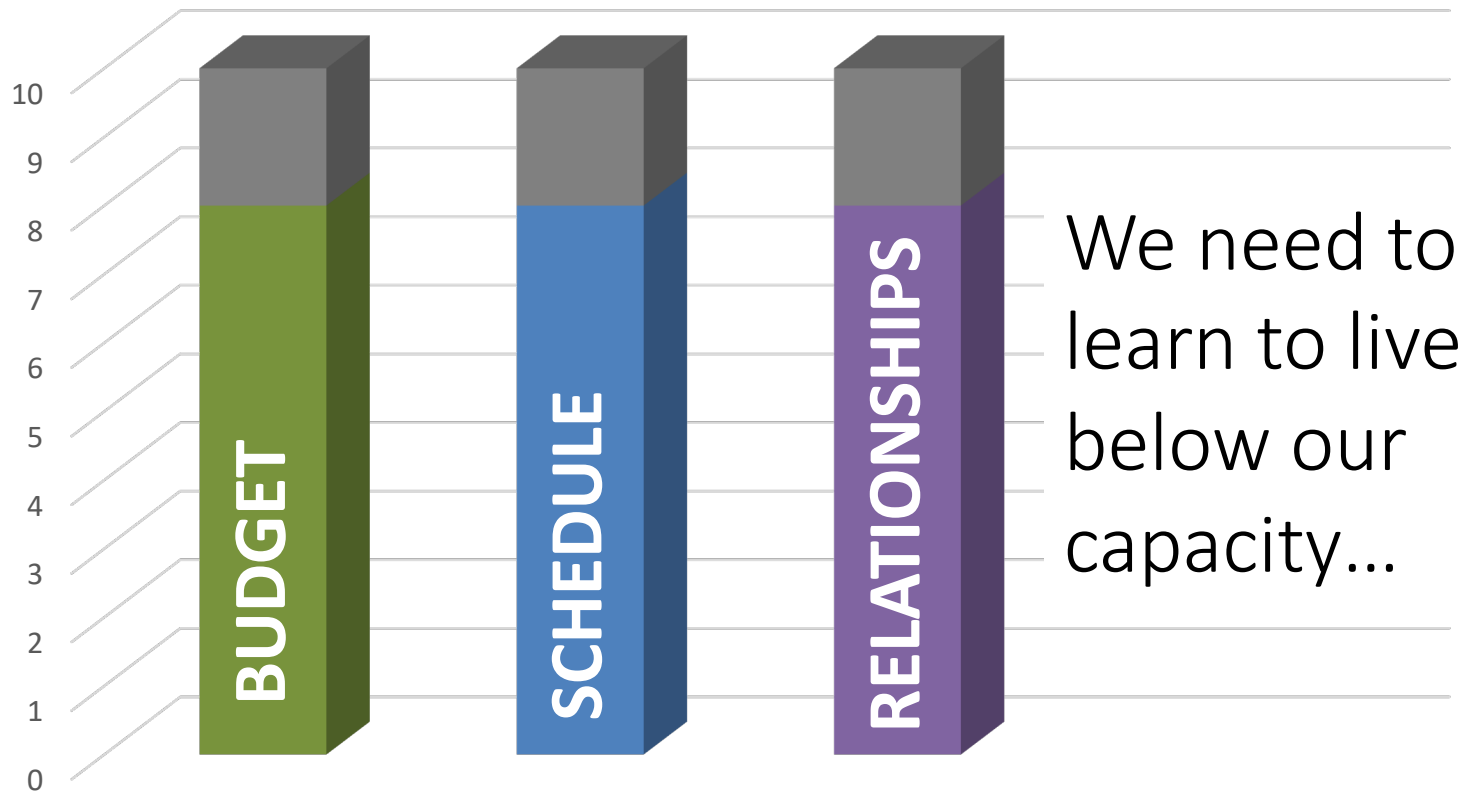
Simplify

There are two
ways to get enough.
One is to continue
to accumulate
more and more.
The other is
to desire less.



G.K. CHESTERTON

BUILDING MARGIN INTO OUR LIVES



HEBREWS 13:5a

*Keep your lives free
from the love of money
and be content with
what you have...*

HOLY
BIBLE

HEBREWS 13:5

*Keep your lives free
from the love of money
and be content with
what you have,
because God has said,
“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”*

HOLY
BIBLE

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What is your level of contentment, on a scale of 1-10?



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What is your level of contentment, on a scale of 1-10?
- Where are you experiencing a lack of margin in your life?
(Budget? Schedule? Relationships?)



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What is your level of contentment, on a scale of 1-10?
- Where are you experiencing a lack of margin in your life?
- What is one area you can simplify?



QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What is your level of contentment, on a scale of 1-10?
- Where are you experiencing a lack of margin in your life?
- What is one area you can simplify?
- What is one thing you can express genuine gratitude for right now?



Perfect Light of revelation,
as you shone in the life of Jesus,
whose epiphany we celebrate,
so shine in us and through us,
that we may become beacons
of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with
deeds of justice and mercy. Amen.

Closing Prayer

A decorative banner at the bottom of the slide. It features a dark background with stylized white hands reaching out. Overlaid on the hands are several overlapping circles in red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The banner is flanked by grey vertical bars on either side.