

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week 2 - Is our Modern American Dream a Trap?



GETTING STARTED

What's something you once thought you had to have—but later realized you didn't really need? What did that experience teach you (if anything) about contentment?

THIS WEEK'S THEME

Read Matthew 14:15–21 aloud. If in a group, consider having different people read different verses.

In verse 15, the disciples say, “Send the crowds away.” What does their response reveal about how they see the situation? Where do you see a similar mindset in our culture—or in yourself?

Jesus responds, “You give them something to eat.” Why do you think Jesus places responsibility back on the disciples instead of solving the problem outright?

The disciples say, “We have nothing... except five loaves and two fish.” Why do we often minimize what we have? What keeps us focused on scarcity instead of abundance?

Whether you view this as a miraculous multiplication or a miracle of shared generosity, what does the story reveal about God's economy versus our economy?

The sermon contrasts “discontent” with “contentment.” What are some signs that you may be living in discontent? What would living in contentment look like practically?

Jesus refuses to believe there isn't enough. What would change in your anxiety levels, decision-making, or generosity if you adopted that same posture?

How might believing “we have enough” widen your circle – at home, in your workplace, or in our community?

If we became known as “the church that refuses to believe there isn't enough,” what impact could that have locally and globally?

TAKING IT HOME

Where in your life are you gripping the coconut—afraid to let go? What would it look like to open your hand?

PRAY

Jesus, you are the God of more-than-enough. Free us from the fear that we lack, and teach us to live with open hands, trusting your provision and widening your table.
Amen.