



# IMMANUEL CHURCH

**Conversation Starter: Marginal Thrive**  
**October 29, 2017**

## Opening Questions:

- How often would you say you feel the effects of margin-deficiency? What are the areas of your life that seem to suffer most when you don't leave some amount beyond what's necessary? Is it sleep? Generosity? Relationships?
- Have you ever thought about the problems we have with busyness and stress as not coming from limited capacity, but stemming from living life at maximum capacity? What's the difference in your mind?

## Looking at Scripture:

- Read **Luke 10:38-40...** Which of the sisters do you see yourself in most? Are you distracted by a litany of tasks like Martha? Or, are you living life with margin like Mary and soaking up a relationship with Jesus?
- What are some distinguishing factors in identifying what's important versus what's urgent? What usually has to happen for you to focus on what's important?
- When you read **Ecclesiastes 2:1-11**, it could almost read like a description of "The American Dream" couldn't it? What does the writer infer about the pursuit of those things? What is life supposed to look like if it isn't focused on attaining all of that?
- Read **Leviticus 19:9-10...** God commands the Israelites to leave space on the perimeter of their land; to not consume to the maximum or limit, why? If you were the property owner, how would you feel about that idea? What does this say about us? What does it say about God?

## Application Questions:

- This week's bottom line was **LIVING AT THE MAX ISN'T LIFE TO THE MAX**. If most people schedule and plan their lives for 120% full, living life at 100% full would mean a 20% decrease in activity, spending, and doing. But that still leaves no real margin does it? What would you have to do in order to start living every facet of your life with real, legitimate margin? What gets cut or reprioritized?
- Josh challenged us to reduce our consumption by 3% for one month. Where are you planning on reducing? How do you plan on thinking less about what you *can* do and focusing more on what you *should* do?
- In the message, Josh said something to the effect of *we can be rich without being more rich*. What does that mean to you?

*End your time asking God to show your group where he's calling them to create margin and leave room for him to move. Ask him to be clear and to grant everyone the courage and strength to act on what they sense God's showing them.*