



THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Small Group Questions: Part 3: In God We Trust

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Read

Numbers 23:19; John 20:29

Reflect

Who do you trust with your money? If you are married and have a joint checking account, you trust your spouse. If you have investments, you might trust someone to manage them. Of course, you are paying them to do a good job, so trust is only one part of that relationship! Would you trust a relative with your checking account for a month? What about your neighbor? The list of people we trust with our money is very, very short. Now, what about God? What if he asked for exclusive control of all your money for one month? Would you be excited, or nervous? If we're being really honest, most of us would probably be at least a little nervous! The issue is this: do we trust God? Take a moment in your group and have everyone share: would they be nervous about God handling all their money for one month? Why?

Pastor Chip Judd taught that:

1. God owns everything and he's very generous with it
 - a. Take a moment and reflect on this truth: everything that we have belongs to God. If that is true, if we really believe that, how does it change how we see our own possessions and money?
 - b. Generosity is a vital part of God's character: have you ever heard generosity described as a vital part of the character of a Christian?
2. Our faith and confidence are based on His goodness, not ours
 - a. What do you think holds people back from being generous? In your own life, what has held you back from being generous? Do you think that a focus on the goodness of God could change that? What has generosity (yours or others) taught you about the goodness of God?
3. Faith is believing what God says and acting on it before you see it
 - a. If our giving does not require faith, chances are that it is not actually generous. Would it take faith to give someone \$1? How about \$5? Probably not. That is why generosity is about much more than what we do with our money: it is a picture of our relationship with God. What does your generosity today say about your faith? What do you want it to say about your faith? What would it take to get from here to there?

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Life Group support you and hold you accountable in this?