

Entrusted

Faithful With What Matters Most

Icebreaker Question: *What's something valuable someone has entrusted to you—whether an object, a responsibility, or even a relationship? How did knowing it wasn't yours change how you treated it?*

HEAD (Truth – What does God's Word say?)

1. Read **1 Corinthians 4:1–2**. Paul describes believers as servants and stewards. What's the difference between being an owner and being a steward, and why does that distinction matter in our relationship with God?
 2. Read **Ephesians 2:8–10** and **1 Peter 4:10**. How do these passages help us understand the relationship between receiving God's grace and being entrusted to serve others with it?
 3. Read **Psalms 24:1** and **Luke 16:10**. How should recognizing God's ownership of everything change our understanding of faithfulness, even in seemingly small responsibilities?
-

HEART (Reflection – What is God revealing to you?)

1. The sermon emphasized that everything we have ultimately belongs to God. What area of your life is most difficult to surrender to His ownership—your time, finances, relationships, abilities, or plans? Why?
 2. We're called to faithfully steward the Gospel and reflect God's grace to others. Are there situations where you find it easier to receive God's grace than to extend it to someone else?
 3. We often compare what we've been given with what others have. How might comparison, fear, or a desire for control keep us from being faithful with what God has already entrusted to us?
-

HANDS (Application – What will you do?)

1. What's one specific area of your life where God is calling you to move from ownership to stewardship this week?
2. Who is one person you could intentionally share the Gospel with or demonstrate God's grace toward this week? What is one step you could take?
3. Look back at the **"My Next Faithful Step"** section from Sunday's congregation notes. What did you write down, or what would you write now? How can this group encourage and support you in following through?

BASIC GROUP GUIDELINES

Though we call these Basic Group Guidelines, these are also essential in all relationships and environments. These should be observed whether in 1-on-1 conversation or in a group discussion.

- Guidelines give boundaries for people to operate within.
- They help with the flow and pace of the discussions.
- They help us value one another.
- They help people to be more comfortable sharing deep and meaningful things.

Safe Group – This is a safe group. Confidentiality is key, what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware how you are affecting the environment: words, actions, non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

No Crosstalk – Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, checking phone, responding to text or email, etc.

Listen – Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone has shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

No Rescuing or Fixing – We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or share struggles or conviction.

Use "I" Statements – It's easy to talk about the issues of others or respond with "we", "us", "the church". But for us to grow as disciples, and build relationship, we want to use "I" statements.

Don't Overtalk – We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

Fight for Relationship – It's not 'if' conflict or hurt feeling will happen, but 'when'. We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to that person and share your struggle or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.

