Ney Church of God

Talk It Over

SPEND LESS

Advent Conspiracy | Small Group Discussion

Key Takeaway: When we worship a different King, we live by different values. We spend less on what doesn't matter so we can give more to what does.

Opening Thought

Christmas is often described as the season of giving, but it can easily become a season of accumulating. We can get so caught up in buying, spending, and trying to make Christmas special that we lose sight of the King whose birth we celebrate.

This week, we're considering what it means to **Spend Less**—not simply as a financial decision, but as a reflection of the Kingdom to which we belong.

Read Together

Matthew 2:1–12

Discussion Questions

1. Two Kingdoms, Two Kings

Herod's kingdom was built around power, wealth, and protecting what he had. Jesus came in humility, giving Himself for others.

- What differences do you see between the values of Herod's kingdom and the values of Jesus' Kingdom?
- Where do you see those competing values in our culture today?

2. The Kingdom of More

The Herodian philosophy was bigger and better. Our culture often encourages us to believe that what we have is never quite enough.

- Where do you see the pressure to have more, upgrade, or keep up with others?
- Why do you think it's so easy to connect our happiness or identity to the things we own?

3. The Cost of Consumerism

Read Matthew 6:19–21.

Jesus reminds us that where we put our treasure influences where our hearts will be.

- How can our spending habits reveal what we value?
- What are some ways that excessive spending or the pursuit of possessions can affect our relationships, generosity, and spiritual lives?

4. Living in a Different Kingdom

Read Luke 12:15.

Jesus says that life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.

- What would it look like for you to find greater contentment in what God has already provided?
- How might spending less create opportunities to invest more in people, relationships, and God's Kingdom?

Putting It Into Practice

This week, consider one practical change you can make to spend less on things that don't matter as much and give more attention to the things that do.

As we participate in Advent Conspiracy, we're also looking for ways to redirect our resources toward others, including our partnership to provide a place of worship for believers in the Dominican Republic.

What is one intentional choice you can make this Christmas that reflects your allegiance to a different King?

Close in Prayer

Ask God to help you recognize where the values of this world have influenced your priorities. Pray for contentment, generosity, and hearts that are shaped by the Kingdom of Christ rather than the kingdom of consumerism.