



**Psalm 50:9-11** I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine.

**James 1:16-17** Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

**Proverbs 3:9** Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;

**1 Chronicles 29:14, 16-18 - 14** "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand...16 Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. 17 I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. 18 Lord, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.

## Icebreaker

What is the first thing you remember buying with your own money?

## Conversation Starters

On a scale of 1-10, what is your comfort level when you go to church and the topic is money? Has the number always been the same? What changed? **Number one is totally comfortable and and number ten is so uncomfortable you would get up and leave.**

**Read James 1:16-17 and Psalm 50:9-11 printed above out loud as a group.**

**God owns it all. All that you have is a gift from God. You are rich.**

1. Which of these statements is the easiest for you? Why?
2. Which of these statements is the hardest for you to believe AND live out? Why?  
What does it look like to live like EVERYTHING good comes from God and belongs to God?
3. Is it possible to be rich materially and poor in other ways? Is it possible to be poor materially and rich in other ways? Where have you seen these play out in the world around you?

**Read Proverbs 3:9** Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;

4. Of the reasons to tithe (which means returning to God a portion of what he has provided you,) which are the more and less compelling/inspiring reasons for you?
  - a. Because it belongs to God and it is required of you.
  - b. Because tithing will help you fight greed. Where is greed a problem in your life?
  - c. Because tithing will help you live a more contented life. What gets in the way of your contentment?
  - d. Because your tithe funds the work of the local church.
  - e. Because tithing will help you trust God.