**“Gather Around”**

Going deeper in Mark 12:41-44

**INTRODUCTION –** During his final days on earth, Jesus has entered Jerusalem and has been spending time teaching in the temple courts. In Mark 12:38-40, Jesus has severely admonished the actions and attitudes of the chief priests and teachers of the law. In sharp contrast, Jesus then calls the attention of his disciples to the actions and attitude of a poor widow.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

**41**Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. **42**But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. **43**Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. **44**They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Why do you think Jesus was watching people give to the temple?

2. Why does Jesus call his disciples to him?

3. What is the issue with the rich giving out of their wealth?

4. What makes the widow’s gift “more” than all the others?

5. What point is Jesus making concerning what God desires of us?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Give thanks for the complete and total love of Jesus; love that moved him to give you his all!

\*Pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit you may love God with all your heart.

\*Ask that the Holy Spirit reveal to you any areas of your life you have not yet given over

to God and for help to surrender those areas.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Gather around Jesus. Spend some time examining your life, your heart, and what motivates your actions and attitudes. Are you more like the chief priests and teachers of the law who gave out of obligation or more like the widow who gave out of love? Do changes need to be made? Will you make them? Will you give God your all?