

**Week of 12-05-2021**

**SBSG – Simple Christmas – The Closet**

**The Purpose of a Sermon Based Small Group (to be read at the beginning of each gathering)**

The purpose of our small group is to actively pursue Christ through relationships, as we worship, serve, and belong together.

**READ ALOUD BY ALL (allow this prayer to shape your time together)**

**Dear God, help me in this dialogue to be humble & suspend judgment. I recognize that we are all created in your image. Give me courage to stay curious about each other by asking questions. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to meet together and in so doing grow closer to you. AMEN**

**Sermon Series:** Simple Christmas

**Opening question:**  Are you more judgmental of your clothing choices or the choices of others....why?

**Sermon Synopsis:** Almost every holiday season comes with holiday parties, and along with those parties comes an expectation that you come dressed sharp. How often do we feel the pressure to rush off and buy something new? Have we ever stopped and asked ourselves what’s wrong with the clothes we already own, and, after all, who are we trying to impress?

**Bible Reading**

Reading the Bible is about reading for practice and spiritual formation – spiritual formation, in which the reader seeks to be formed by the Spirit of God.

**Passage(s) from the sermon:** Matthew 6:25-33  (the Message version)  Matthew 23:25-28(NRSV)

After reading the passage is there anything you are curious about?

**Discipleship Point:** Our worth doesn't come from our appearance

**Accountability:** How is the Spirit nudging you in terms of cleaning the inside of your cup this week?

**Personal Prayer Request**

Share a one or two sentence prayer request with the Small Group for this next week. Remember these prayer requests are about your life not someone else’s.

**(Sample Prayer)**

God, we thank you for your presence with us. We lift up these requests to you knowing that you care deeply about us…we pray for\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and (fill in prayer requests) ... God we know that you have heard our request and we release all outcomes to you and your glory. It’s in your Son’s name Jesus that we pray…**AMEN**.