

## CONVERSATION STARTERS OCTOBER 7, 2018

*This is a guide to help start a conversation about this week's service. Feel free to pick, choose, re-order and adapt as you see fit. You know your group best and can facilitate their experience by modifying as necessary.*

### ICE-BREAKERS

1. Share about Thanksgiving traditions from your family or household. Which traditions do you enjoy the most? Which ones do you question or sometimes struggle with?
2. How did you sense or encounter God's presence in this week's service? Which aspect of the service was most significant for you? Has the finger-tapping reminder to say "Thank you God for" been a helpful practice?
3. How was this week's experience of the "*Dream Big, Think Small*" devotional? In the spirit of thankfulness, how many tried the exercise on p. 98, journaling about three specific gifts or blessings? How might making this a consistent, daily practice change your attitude and perspective over time?

### REVIEW

1. You may want to watch this week's message as a refresher. Or, try picking a spot with 10-15 minutes to go to review the main application(s). Messages are found at [southridgechurch.ca/messages](http://southridgechurch.ca/messages).
2. Feel free to try one or two of these... What did you hear in this week's message? What ideas stood out? What did you agree with? Disagree with? What questions came to mind? How did it make you feel?

### REFLECT

1. Read this week's passage in [James 1:9-12](#). As you read, invite each person to pick a word or phrase that most catches their attention. Share with each other about what stood out and why.
2. Have you ever had an experience with someone in poverty who, although poor economically, seemed to be wealthy in other ways? What was this like? What did you learn from them?
3. We tend to think that more wealth makes life easier. But how do you think wealth would or does affect our faith in Jesus? In what ways does wealth make it easier or more difficult to follow Jesus?

### RESPOND

1. In what parts of your life have money and wealth, or the lack of these things, become barriers to truly loving God and others well?
2. What's one next step you could take to cultivate a spirit of radical generosity in order to prevent wealth from becoming a greater barrier to faith?
3. How could we commit to being a group of people that sees money and wealth differently? How can we pray for each other and support each other in the pursuit of love rather than the pursuit of luxury?

The Pursuit of...