

**The Big Idea:** The invitation of Jesus is not a lane-shift for our lives, but a total \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of our lives.

*Matthew 4:17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (NIV)*

### Discerning the Current Direction

**Consumerism: The attempt to achieve personal \_\_\_\_\_ & happiness through the acquisition of \_\_\_\_\_ and services.**

#### Headed for Heartbreak:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ can't meet these deep human needs.
2. This vicious cycle is a \_\_\_\_\_ that robs us of truly \_\_\_\_\_.
3. These deepest human needs can be met by \_\_\_\_\_ alone, not market-place activity.

#### In Search of An Alternative

**The Starting Point: God is \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. (NIV)*

*God alone is Lord and Commander of our \_\_\_\_\_ lives. He will not \_\_\_\_\_ His rule with any other allegiance or ruler.*

*Romans 10:9-10 NIV ...if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

*"Here's how you know the followers of Jesus. They are the ones who stand in the face of social, political and cultural pressure to cave in and subject themselves to Caesar and any number of other gods... and instead they stand and firmly claim that JESUS IS LORD \_\_\_\_\_."*

### The Alternative Vision: "Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_."

*Matthew 6:24-34 "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other; or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (NIV)*

### The root of the consumerism question: Who will we \_\_\_\_\_, really?

*For us to allow our lives to be consumed by the pursuit and acquisition of things in order to meet our deepest needs is practical \_\_\_\_\_.*

*As long as the consumption of things preoccupies us, we will never embrace the Kingdom. We will instead be trapped in the vicious & destructive cycle of earning and consuming while real life, and the Kingdom itself, passes us by.*

### "My name is Naaman, how do I start?" (extra credit: read 2 Kings 5)

**Secede:** I will \_\_\_\_\_ from the forces of consumerism and choose the Lordship of Jesus over every area of my life, \_\_\_\_\_ Him to meet even the deepest needs of my life.

**Embrace:** Now free from the trap of consumerism, I will be an \_\_\_\_\_ of the Kingdom of God in my world.