



**Part 1: I Want Less!**

**November 19 & 20, 2016**

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**A Common Phrase: Less is more.**

### **Strategic Question**

What are you not doing for the holidays this year?

**This holiday season, I am going to choose:**

**Less debt – through more strategic spending**

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. – Romans 13:8

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.  
– Proverbs 21:5

**Less stress – through more strategic simplicity**

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.  
– Micah 6:8

And to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you... – 1 Thessalonians 4:11

**Less noise – through more strategic silence**

Sin is not ended by multiplying words, but the prudent hold their tongues.  
– Proverbs 10:19

The LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.  
– Habakkuk 2:20

**Less chaos – through more strategic Sabbath**

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. – Exodus 20:8

And he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” – Mark 2:27

### **Less hurry - through a more strategic pace**

Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest. - Mark 6:31

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. - Matthew 28:28-29

### **Less getting - through more strategic giving**

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' - Acts 20:35

## **Holiday Commitment**

**Trusting that less is more, this holiday season**

I am not going to \_\_\_\_\_

### **Next Steps**

This is the final weekend of our annual CTK Blessing giving campaign. Though you can give toward The Blessing all through the year, we determine next year's Blessing budget by this year's giving. If you can say that God has met your needs, would you consider helping meet someone else's by giving toward The Blessing? Details are on today's program insert and online at [ctk.church/blessing](http://ctk.church/blessing).

### **Small Group Questions**

- 1) When it comes to holidays, are you more the plan maker in your family or more the plan follower?
- 2) Which areas (debt, stress, noise, chaos, hurry or getting) do you struggle with most during the holidays?
- 3) Is there something you've decided not to do this season? What is it?
- 4) It's said that if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. How can you plan simplicity, silence and Sabbath into this season? Is there a way to make yourself accountable for those decisions?
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?