

A Year In The Wheelbarrow | Doug Wekenman | 11.29.2025 Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members settle in, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how their lives are going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

• Share a high, a low, and something interesting from this week.

GROW

In the mid-1800s, a stuntman named Charles Blondin made history when he crossed Niagara Falls on a tightrope hundreds of feet in the air. The crowds were amazed—not just because he made it across once, but because he kept pushing the limits. He stopped halfway to cook an omelet. He crossed again while blindfolded. And on his most famous attempt, he pushed a wheelbarrow full of concrete across the falls. When he reached the other side, he dumped out the concrete and asked the cheering crowd, "Who believes I can push a person across in this wheelbarrow?" Every hand went up. But when he asked, "Who is willing to get in?" the crowd fell silent. On that day, the difference between believing and trusting became painfully clear. Hundreds believed he could do it. Only one man—Blondin's manager, the one who knew him best—trusted him enough to climb in.

In the same way, many of us believe God can do extraordinary things in our lives, but few of us trust Him enough to place our finances—and our deepest treasures—in His hands. This week in our Kingdom Builders series, we're exploring what it means to not just believe God is Provider,

but to trust Him with what matters most. As we dive into Doug's message, *A Year in the Wheelbarrow*, we're invited to move from spectators to participants—people who don't just cheer God on from a distance but actually step into the wheelbarrow with Him. Hebrews 11 reminds us that faith is the evidence of things unseen. True faith is not just believing God can...it's trusting Him enough to follow wherever He leads—even with our money.

Read Hebrews 11:1-4, Malachi 3:10

- What stuck out to you from this week's message? Was anything convicting, encouraging, or freeing? Explain.
- How does the distinction between belief and trust challenge your current relationship with God, and in what areas of your life are you believing without truly trusting?
- In Malachi 3:10, the Lord says, "Test me" regarding giving. What fears or doubts keep you from taking God up on this invitation to test His faithfulness?

MOVE

Read John 6:9-13, John 4:27-34

In John 6, a young boy showed up to hear Jesus speak, carrying a simple lunch—five loaves and two fish. It may have been all his family had left. It was barely enough for him. Yet when Jesus asked for it, the boy gave everything he had. Everything he needed. And he said "yes."

The boy showed up that day because he believed there was something different about Jesus—something different about the life He offered, something his soul had been searching for. But that didn't make him special. Thousands of people showed up that day for the same reason. It wasn't the boy's belief that made history; it was his trust. That moment of faith changed thousands of lives back then, and it still speaks to us today.

But here's what we often miss: the miracle wasn't only that thousands were fed. The miracle was that the faithfulness of one young boy sustained thousands of others in a time of need, so they could remain in the presence of Jesus—the One they had come to see.

God always works this way. In John 4, when the disciples urged Jesus to eat, He said, "I have food you know nothing about." His strength didn't come from earthly supply, but from doing the Father's will. His nourishment didn't come from what He held, but from the presence of the Provider Himself.

The boy's bread alone couldn't feed the crowd, but his faith could place it in the hands of the One who could. That's what Kingdom Builders is about: stepping out in faith to meet practical needs so God can meet supernatural ones.

We don't give because we have extra, or because we have enough. We give because we know Who is holding it. Generosity isn't about abundance—it is about trust. Every time we offer God the little we have—our provision, our time, our finances, our obedience—He multiplies it so that no one goes hungry, and nothing is wasted.

The loaves and fish didn't just feed people. They anchored a crowd in the presence of Jesus. Faithfulness does that. It opens the door for others to encounter God and be filled by Him.

God isn't asking us to bring what we don't have. He's simply asking us to trust Him with what we do. And in His hands, it becomes enough for everyone—including us.

So, ask yourself, "God, based on all the ways You've blessed me this year, what can I give to build Your Kingdom and not mine?"

- What have you been holding onto that feels too costly to offer up to God?
- If Jesus asked for the one thing you currently "need" most, how do you think you would respond?

- Jesus says, "I have food you know nothing about." What does that mean for you personally? Where do you most often look for strength, fulfillment, or provision other than God?
- What do you sense God might be asking you to surrender or offer to Him this season?
- "Belief is easy, but trust is costly. This year, will you climb into the wheelbarrow and let God carry what only He can multiply?"

PRAY

Take some time this week to pray with your family and ask yourself, "God, based on all the ways You've blessed me this year, what can I give to build Your Kingdom and not mine?"