

# TALK IT OVER

3 Critical Areas

## BOTTOM LINE

A life of margin isn't controlled by pressure but directed by purpose or people who forgot how to be human.

## CONVERSATION STARTER

If you had an extra two hours in your day tomorrow, what would you do with them?

## THINGS TO CONSIDER

*What did you hear?*

*What do you think?*

*What will you do?*

## RESOURCES

- The Daily: [newpointe.org/thedaily](http://newpointe.org/thedaily)
- [Creating Margin in a Busy Life](#) A short read by Chris Goede

## VERSES AND QUOTES

*"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."* Matthew 18:28 MSG

*Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."* Psalm 90:1-3 NIV

*Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.* James 4:14 NIV

"Margin doesn't begin with better time management. It begins with truth telling. You can't create space if you pretend you're not full."

:Jesus doesn't remove responsibility. He refines how we carry it."

– Quotes by Dwight Mason

## TALK IT OVER

Jesus wants us to work with Him to recover our lives. He shows us that margin is not avoiding responsibility. It is following Jesus, carrying out what He has asked. How does this change or help your perception of boundaries and margin? Jesus said the things He asks of us are not ill-fitting, like roles we were not designed to carry, expectations others placed on us, or responsibility you picked up out of fear, guilt or ego. Which of these have you experienced? Are any hampering you right now? The three major areas for lack of margin are TIME, FINANCES, and RELATIONSHIPS. To create margin in our time, we must choose to see life as God does – our time here is limited. How could life be better in valuable ways if you controlled your time better? What's the difference between standard of living and quality of life? We can raise our standard of living with debt and our quality of life with discipline. But we like debt better than discipline. Discuss that and the average American's debt. How does mismanagement of finances hinder fully following Jesus? Relationships can never thrive in a hurry. What does that say to you? Every yes to activity is a no to availability. What are you saying "yes" to that makes you say "no" to something more important? FEAR drives margin out of my life. What do I fear?

## ACTION STEP

I will evaluate my time, finances, and relationships from God's perspective and set effective margins. \_\_\_\_\_