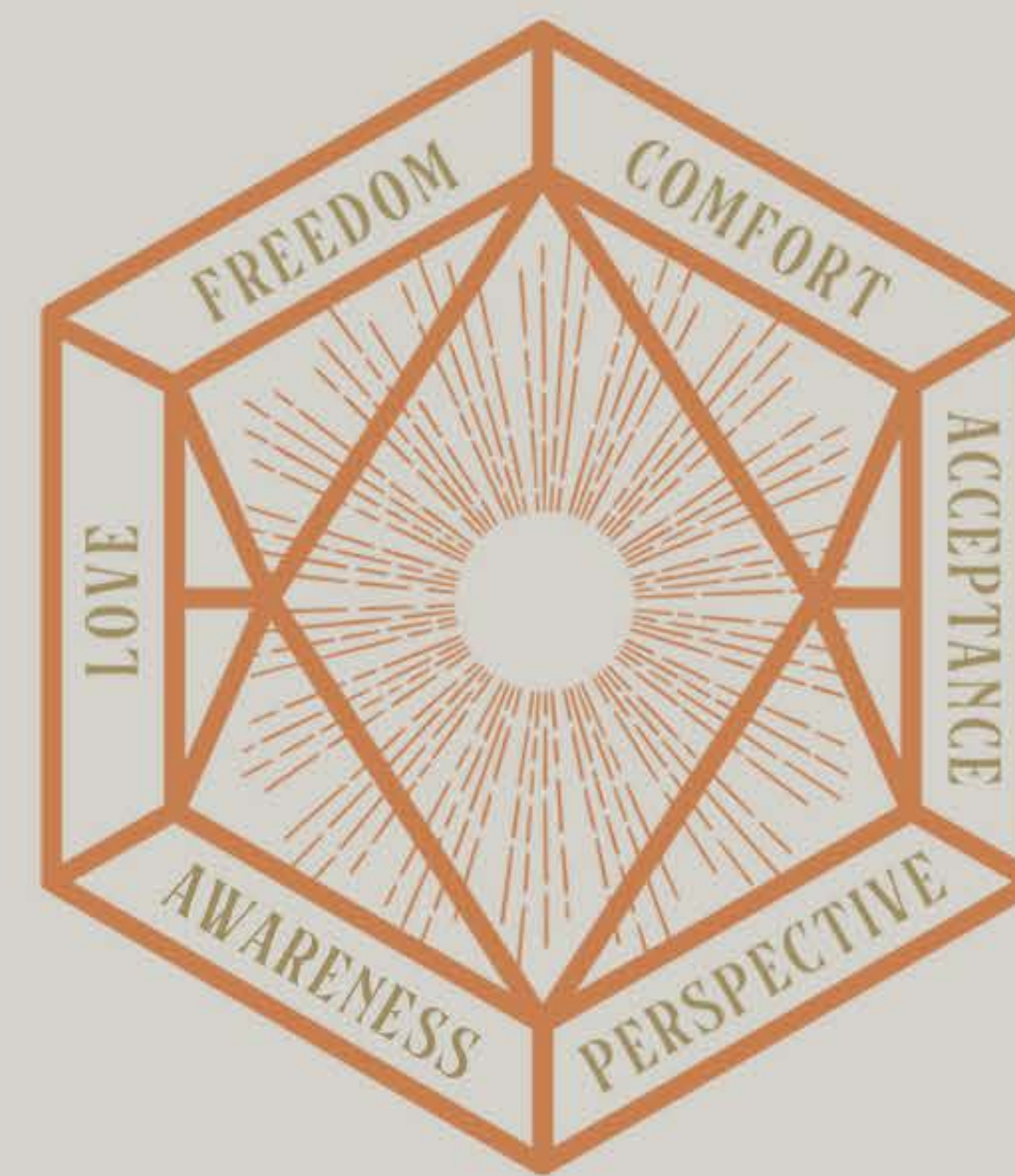


the GIFT of LENT

WEEK 2 | MARCH 13

THE GIFT OF COMFORT



INTRODUCTION

This week, Pastor Jesse continues *The Gift of Lent* series talking about comfort. The less we depend on the comfort of our “stuff,” the more we’ll experience the comfort of God; He sees past our good behavior to what actually grips our hearts. God wants us to be free to see that, before anything else, we need Jesus.

DISCUSSION

1. Share with the group one “guilty pleasure” you indulge in every week: a special coffee on the way to work, a meal out at your favorite restaurant, checking the clearance aisle at your favorite store. How hard would it be for you to give it up for one week?
2. Pastor Jesse taught about the rich young ruler in Luke 18. Another man in Luke 10:25 also asked Jesus what he had to do to inherit eternal life. **Read Luke 10:25-37** and compare Jesus’ answer in Luke 18:18-27. How are they similar?
3. In the two stories above, what grips the hearts of the Pharisee and teacher of the law?
4. **Read Ephesians 2:8-10.** What is God’s gift to us? How can we share this gift with others?
5. Discuss one way you can take that “guilty pleasure” you described in question #1 and gift it to someone else.

TAKE ACTION

1. Take time this week to read through some parables in Luke: 10:25-37, 12:13-21, 16:1-13, 18:9-14. Journal about what God is showing you through these stories.
2. Prayerfully consider how you can bless someone this week through what God has given you.
3. If God is prompting your heart, give up something that has gripped you, and share that decision with someone in your circle who can support you/keep you accountable.

RESOURCES

1. Check out [this video](#) on a section of Luke from The Bible Project on [RightNow Media](#).
2. [A Hunger for God: Desiring God Through Fasting and Prayer](#) by John Piper, David Platt and Francis Chan
3. [Key Principles of Biblical Fasting](#) is six-week small-group study written by Kay Arthur and Pete De Lacy.