FROM SCARCITY TO ABUNDANCE

GOD’S ECONOMY
THE BIBLE CONTAINS:

- 500 references to prayer
- Almost 500 passages addressing faith
- BUT 2,000+ verses on possessions and money
What should we do to create a more just economy?
THIS SUNDAY:
WHAT WOULD GOD’S ECONOMY LOOK LIKE?

NEXT SUNDAY:
UUMC — TURNING SCARCITY
AMONG THE TOP 10 RICHEST NATIONS IN THE WORLD ...

- The United States ranks 9th, with $54,630 per capita GDP and a population of 310 million-plus people.

- It boasts the world’s largest economy YET...

  [Global Finance, 2016]
The worst income inequality
{Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, 12/2013 based on 2010 data}

Lower economic mobility
{Pew Charitable Trust Center on Poverty and Inequality, 2015}

Poorer health outcomes and greater income inequality despite more spent on social programs.
{Peterson Institute for International Economics, 2015}
What words would you use to describe today’s economy?
income
inequality
wealth
WHAT WOULD GOD’S ECONOMY LOOK LIKE...

IF OUR ECONOMY IS BROKEN ...
What would God’s economy look like?
A building block of God’s Economy ...
THREE TOXIC MYTHS OF SCARCITY

MYTH #1: There is not enough.

MYTH #2: More is better.

MYTH #3: That’s just the way it is.
“ACCEPTING MYTH #3 — THAT’S JUST THE WAY IT IS — IS AN EXCUSE TO JUSTIFY THE GREED, PREJUDICE, AND INACTION THAT PROP UP ECONOMIC INEQUALITY.”

Lynne Twist, Founder of The Hunger Project
GOD’S MESSAGE IS ONE OF ABUNDANCE:

- The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want.  
  Psalm 23

- Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about what you shall put on. ... Look at the birds of the air; they neither reap nor sow nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?  
  Matthew 6: 25-28
WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY ABOUT GOD’S ECONOMY

Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you. Matthew 5:42

But love your enemies and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great. Luke 6:35
I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God’s hands, that I still possess.

Martin Luther