**“The Practice of Sacrifice”**

Going deeper in Mark 12:41-44

**INTRODUCTION** Jesus is teaching in the temple. He has just warned about abusing power and taking advantage of those who marginalized. Then this happens:

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 41 Sitting across from the place for the offerings, Jesus was watching as people threw in their offerings. Many wealthy people threw in large contributions. 42 One poor widow came up and threw in two small coins worth less than a penny. 43 Jesus called his disciples over and said, “The truth is that the poor widow gave more than all the others put together. 44 All the others gave out of what they’ll never miss. On the other hand, she gave extravagantly out of what she could not afford – she gave her all.”

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Why would the people be throwing in their offerings? Why would Jesus be watching?

2. Why would the widow’s offering be more than all the others together?

3. What kind of sacrifice was she making?

4. How do you think Jesus defines sacrifice?

5. What is one way that the Lord Jesus is calling you to live sacrificially this year?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Take some time to silently reflect on all the aspects of Jesus’ sacrifice for you. Thank Him.

\*Reflect on those who have made sacrifices for you. Thank the Lord for them and their example.

\*Give to the Lord Jesus each and every activity of your day. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to live sacrificially in the day that has been given to you.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Jesus highlights the sacrifice of this widow as an example for us all. How is the Holy Spirit calling you to follow her example this week?