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# COAT

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## > *Luke 3:10-11* <

"What should we do then?" the crowd asked. John answered. "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none. and the one who has food should do the same."

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We are a people of multiples. Right? Stop reading this right now, go to your closet, and count how many pairs of shoes, coats, hats, and scarves you have. Count the number of shirts and pants you have. Were you surprised? It's always surprising to me when I go through my closet. It's also a little embarrassing.

Now, I want to take a time out before we go any farther. This exercise isn't supposed to make you feel guilty. The goal is to make you feel grateful and to be aware of all of the things you have, and what you can do with those resources. The point of the teaching of John the Baptist was not to create a world of guilt-ridden followers of Christ. He taught us this to help each of us realize that the place where the abundance of our resources intersects with the abundance of need in the world we will find the Kingdom of God.

Now that we realize how much we have and how little we really need, what are we to do? Should we go and throw away all of our extra clothes? No, that would be wasteful and would probably get you into a lot of trouble. The goal is to change how you think about what you have. Gradual changes will add up to major differences in your life. You can bring about great change in our world by simply starting with the things you have in your own closet.

### **Go and Do**

Look at all of the things you have and how you spend your time and money. Think about what you waste, what you have that you don't need, and what can be done with those things. Begin conversations with your parents about places where you want to make a difference.

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