

the blessedlife

Learning to Let God Multiply



LifeGroup Discussion Guide Week 3 - The Principle of Generosity

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Our Main Idea:

So many people today think of being more blessed as getting more, when the reality is we must be generous to really experience the blessed life.

Key Questions:

With your Bible or YouVersion, read Acts 20:35, Proverbs 11:24-25 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. In these verses we learn that the key to a blessed life is being generous in giving to others. Describe a time when you gave generously to someone else. How did that act of giving make you feel and what did you learn from that experience?

Read John 12:1-8: What stands out to you? How does the writer, John, contrast the attitude of Judas with the attitude of Mary? When it comes to generosity, do you tend to resemble Mary (extravagantly generous) or Judas (concerned with cost before generosity)?

Generosity has an enemy called selfishness

Why do you think being generous is so hard, even when we have more than we need?

Judas masked his selfishness by trying to seem more generous and wise than Mary. How do we deceive ourselves when it comes to generosity? What are some things we tell ourselves to justify our selfishness?

Extreme generosity can seem extravagant

What word would characterize your giving? Minimum? Just enough? Generous? Extravagant? Nothing? • We often think that extravagant giving is only for the wealthy. How could anything we might give be considered extravagant? Yet this sort of giving is merely trusting God with more than we thought possible. By their very definition, extravagant gifts always cost us something dear, and are very rare. What is an extravagant gift you might be able to give?

God always rewards extravagant generosity

God's very nature is to be generous. If we truly belong to him, generosity should come as naturally to us as it does to him. He rewards extravagant generosity because when we give that way, we reflect part of him to the rest of the world.

Have you ever given generously, and seen God bless you because of it? What did that experience teach you? **What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?**

Next Steps

How can you begin to become more generous this week? What is holding you back from being generous, and what steps can you take to start breaking free from that?

What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?

Experience

Your Relationship with God

Thank God for all of the blessings He has given you throughout your life. Spend time praising Him. Have an honest conversation with God about the things keeping you from being as generous as you should. Seek His help in removing these excuses.

Equip

Your Relationship with Others

Ask God to reveal some people or causes that He would like for you to increase your generosity towards.
Pray for someone you know that is in need. Seek God's guidance on ways you can help them this week.

Engage

Your Relationship with the World

This week make a concentrated effort to bless someone in need—a charitable cause, a ministry, or our church. Stretch your generosity and watch how God impacts and blesses you and the recipients of your blessing. Consider giving money, resources, possessions or even your time.