



Week 12 | Becoming Like Jesus: Generosity Gospel Community Leaders Guide

Pray

As you begin, pray for awareness of the Holy Spirit's loving, caring, and generous presence in your gathering. Pray first and foremost that your group would begin to understand God's grace, generosity, and good gifts toward us. Then pray that this awareness would lead us to give generously and manage well what He has given us--not out of shame, guilt, or compulsion, but out of joy.

Encourage

Encourage your group of the following truths:

Everything we have is God's. When it comes to how we spend our money, He is not concerned with amounts, but rather how well we manage whatever we are given. Jesus said *"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much."* - Luke 16:10

Generosity means sacrifice. Consider the following quote from C.S. Lewis: *"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc, is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small."*

Discuss

Discuss this week's sermon, the following passage, and questions with your group.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Matthew 6:19-21

- **How are treasures on earth and treasures in heaven at odds with each other?**
- **In what ways have you seen your heart following where your money goes?**
- **What do we need to have to be content?**
- **How does our willingness to give reveal what we believe about God's generosity?**
- **What are some ways that you have seen the Gospel go forward through your generosity to the church, etc.?**

