

Made For More: Generosity

Discussion Guide for October 3 and 4, 2026

Summary

This message continues the Made for More series with a look at God's design for generosity. Understanding generosity begins with understanding that: (1) everything belongs to God; (2) we are His stewards; and (3) we value eternal treasure over earthly treasures. In 2 Corinthians 8:1–9 the Bible gives us the example of the Macedonian churches. In their example, we learn that: anyone can be generous, generosity is sacrificial, generosity flows from joy rather than obligation, generosity begins with our connection to God, and generosity is a spiritual discipline we can develop. Ultimately, generosity is our worshipful response to Jesus' generosity toward us. The message closes with a challenge to ask God how to be generous this week, with opportunities highlighted in giving to LC3, the Legacy Fund, the BOL Food Bank, and the Benevolence Fund.

Ice Breaker

Think of a time someone was generous to you in a way that cost them something, or a time you gave something away that you didn't have to. What did that experience mean to you, and how did it shape the way you think about giving?

Key Verses

1. 2 Corinthians 8:1–9
2. Luke 21:1–4
3. Matthew 6:19–21
4. 2 Corinthians 9:7
5. Hebrews 13:16

Discussion Questions

1. The message began with three principles: everything belongs to God (Psalm 24:1), we are stewards rather than owners, and we value eternal treasure over earthly treasure. Which of these is hardest for you to live out? Where do you catch yourself saying "my" (my time, my money, my seat) about something that really belongs to God?
2. In Matthew 6:21, Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." If someone looked at your calendar and your bank statement from last month, what would they conclude you treasure? What is the "my precious" in your life that you are most tempted to overvalue?

3. The Macedonian churches gave generously out of extreme poverty. The message quoted Pastor Jono Contestabile: “You don’t have to be rich to be generous; you become rich by being generous.” Have you ever told yourself, “Once I pay off ___ or get ___, then I can be generous”? What would it look like to step out in faith now, even in a tight season?

4. The message defined generosity as giving sacrificially, and distinguished it from faithful giving like tithing. In Luke 21, Jesus said the poor widow gave more than all the wealthy donors. Why do you think Jesus measures a gift by its sacrifice rather than its size? What might sacrificial generosity look like for you, whether with your finances, your time, or your talents?

5. Paul says the Macedonians begged for the chance to give because they “gave themselves first to the Lord.” Right now, would you describe your giving as reluctant, dutiful, or cheerful? How is the health of your relationship with God connected to your answer, and what might help grow cheerfulness in you?

6. Paul reminds the Corinthians that Jesus, though rich, became poor so that we might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). How does reflecting on Jesus’ generosity toward you change the way you think about your own? What would it look like to treat your giving as an act of worship?

Life Application

This week, take time to seek God’s answer to this question: *How can I be generous this week?* Consider all the ways you can give: your time, your talents, and your finances. Then take one concrete step. Start building your generosity “muscle” with a small, intentional act (buy the order of the person behind you in the drive-thru, bring donuts to the office, treat a friend to lunch), or prayerfully consider a larger gift to LC3, the Legacy Fund, the BOL Food Bank, or the Benevolence Fund. Please also pray for the elders as they seek the Lord’s will for our church over the next decade. Come ready next time to share what you did and how it affected you.

Key Takeaways

1. Everything belongs to God: we are stewards of His resources, not owners, and we value eternal treasure over earthly treasure.
2. Anyone can be generous, not just the wealthy.
3. Generosity means giving sacrificially.
4. Generosity flows from joy and from closeness with God: God loves a cheerful giver.
5. Generosity is a spiritual discipline – it grows as we make intentional choices to give.
6. Ultimately, our generosity is a worshipful response to Jesus, who became poor so that we might become rich.