



Practice Generosity

October 11-17, 2026

Would you ever apply to be a participant on a televised game show, to win money? Why, or why not? If you did win a boatload of money, what's the first thing you'd do or buy?

Our culture is fixated on money, and it's difficult for us not to get sucked into the obsession. In this session, Jonathan walks us through the stages of discipleship that help us recognize the money we work so hard to hoard and spend, isn't ours in the first place. There's tremendous freedom and joy when we learn to give it away.

VIDEO: Jonathan opens the session by pointing out that the lyrics of a particular Johnny Nash song are theologically profound when it comes to being generous with wealth: *'What is life? How do we live? What should we take and how much should we give?'*

Without thinking too long and hard (or giving the answer you think others would expect), how would you answer each of Johnny Nash's questions in the space of a post on social media?

Jim Sheppard summarizes the five stages of giving with five questions. Each stage takes us a step closer to understanding God's generous heart and how He wants us to use the resources He's given us.

Stage 1: What do I do with what I earn?

Stage 2: What do I do with what God has given me?

Stage 3: What does God want me to do with what God has given me?

Stage 4: What does God want me to give from what God has provided?

Stage 5: What does God want me to keep from what God has provided?

Discuss what shifts subtly in each of these discipleship stages. What would it take for you to move on to the next stage? What one thing could you do this week or this month, to get there?

READ [2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-11](#).

What do these verses reveal about God's character? What's the promise? What's the prompt? Who or what makes you feel reluctant or pressured to give?

Jesus said, 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' (Matthew 6:21)

What comes to mind when you think of your material life in relation to this verse? How would you explain the meaning of this verse to a seven-year-old?

WRITE: Write down all the ways God has been generous to you this year so far. Now write down all the ways you'd love to pour out generosity on those around you, even if your ideas seem outrageous, extravagant, or impossible.