

### First In Generosity!

21-Day Fast January 16<sup>th</sup> - February 6<sup>th</sup>

“But **seek first** his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”  
- **Matthew 6:33 NIV**

#### A GUIDE FOR FASTING

- Choose To Fast \_\_\_\_\_ Something To Fast \_\_\_\_\_ Something.

#### WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT GIVING

“It is more blessed to **give** than to **receive**.” - **Acts 20:35 NIV**

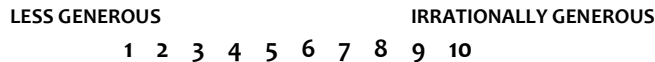
#### WHY AREN'T WE GENEROUS MORE OFTEN?

- A. We Don't Have \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. We've Seen This Teaching \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. We Have A \_\_\_\_\_ Mindset.

#### KEY THOUGHT

- We Will Give With Irrational \_\_\_\_\_, Because We Truly Believe It Is More Blessed To \_\_\_\_\_ Than To \_\_\_\_\_!

In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in **rich generosity**.<sup>3</sup> For I testify that they gave **as much as they were able**, and **even beyond their ability**. Entirely on their own,<sup>4</sup> they urgently **pleaded with us** for the **privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people**.<sup>5</sup> And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves **first of all to the Lord**, and then by the will of God also **to us**...<sup>7</sup> But since you excel in everything...see that you also **excel in this grace of giving**. - **2 Corinthians 8:2-7 NIV**



#### EXCEL IN THIS GRACE OF GIVING...

- With \_\_\_\_\_ Generosity!

But generous people **plan to do what is generous**, and they **stand firm** in their generosity. - **Isaiah 32:8 NLT**

The purpose of tithing is to **teach** you always to put God **first** in your lives. - **Deuteronomy 14:23 TLB**

**One-tenth** of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, **belongs to the LORD** and must be **set apart to him as holy**. - **Leviticus 27:30 NLT**

And **God's grace** was so powerfully **at work in them all**<sup>34</sup> that there were **no needy persons among them**."  
- **Acts 4:33-34 NIV**

#### BAPTISM QUESTIONS

“What are you waiting for? Get up, **be baptized** and **wash your sins away, calling on his name**.” - **Acts 22:16 NIV**

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- How did you rate your generosity? What brings your number up? What brings it down?
- Share a time when you felt blessed from giving to others. How does it compare to other things that bring you joy?
- What would be a first step for you to become known as irrationally generous?
- What did God speak to you during this message about *First In Generosity*? Discuss it.
- How will you pray more this week about generosity? At the end of the week answer the question: How did God answer me?
- Know that Pastor Greg is praying for the Church—that you'd finish your fast well!