

## #4. BE GENEROUS!

### RESOLUTION

- 1) *The act of resolving or determining upon an action, course of action, method, procedure, etc.*
- 2) A resolve; a decision.
- 3) The mental state or quality of being resolved or resolute; firmness of purpose.

“**Commit** to the LORD **whatever you do**, and **he will establish your plans.**” - Proverbs 16:3 NIV

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

- The quality of your \_\_\_\_\_ determines the quality of your \_\_\_\_\_.

**WHEN FACED WITH \_\_\_\_\_ (this situation),  
I HAVE RESOLVED TO \_\_\_\_\_ (take this action).**

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

“Then he said, ‘I know! I’ll tear down my barns and **build bigger ones**. Then I’ll have room enough **to store all my wheat and other goods**. And I’ll sit back and say to myself, “My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! **Eat, drink, and be merry!**”’” - Luke 12:18-19 NLT

### KEY THOUGHTS

- *If you want to be generous when you have more, learn to be generous when you have less.*
  - *We give God our first and our best, and we trust him to bless the rest.*

### TWO QUALITIES OF GENEROUS PEOPLE

#### 1. Generous People \_\_\_\_\_ !

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

“Bring **the whole tithe** into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. **Test me in this**,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” - Malachi 3:10 NIV

#### 2. Generous People \_\_\_\_\_ !

“Some people are always greedy for more, but the godly **love to give!**” - Proverbs 21:26 NLT

“The next day he handed the innkeeper **two silver coins**, telling him, “Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, **I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.**” - Luke 10:35 NLT

“If I have cheated anybody out of anything, **I will pay back four times the amount.**” - Luke 19:8 NIV

### 21-DAY FAST — Day 14 - Sundown, February 12<sup>th</sup>

#### CHOOSE YOUR OWN FAST

- *Sacrifice Food*
- *Sacrifice Something Else*

“Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, **your words were heard**, and **I have come in response to them.**” - Daniel 10:12 NIV

“Fasting is a short-term discipline that yields long-term effects... in order to hear what God wants us to do and how he wants to use us.” - Jentezen Franklin

### DISCUSSION GUIDE

- What are your initial thoughts when you think about generosity?
- On a scale of 1-10, how much would you say that you trust God with your finances, time, and other resources? What could you do to move closer to a 10?

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why? Use any verses from above and read them before the group.
- Talk about the differences between giving and generosity as explained in the message. What would it look like to focus less on giving and more on generosity?
- Generous people always “round up.” Share a time when you were on the receiving end of someone rounding up. How does that experience impact how you view generosity?
- Describe the time in your life when you first started giving. What was that like?
- Read Isaiah 32:8. In what ways could you plan to be generous this week?
- Discuss your fast with the group—what are you fasting FROM and what are you fasting FOR?

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