

**Book Club 2023—3**  
**Jonathan Pokluda**  
**The Cure for Greed**

**Generous living is the antidote to materialism.**

**God wants your heart.**

*“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

Matthew 6:21 NIV

**The cure for greed is generosity.**

*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. ...*

2 Corinthians 8:2-3 NIV

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.*

2 Corinthians 9:6 NIV

**1. Give generously.**

*Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup>But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. <sup>43</sup>Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup>They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”*

Mark 12:41-44 NIV

*“For God so loved the world that he gave ...” John 3:16 NIV*

*Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV*

**2. Give cheerfully.**

*... For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame ... Hebrews 12:2 NIV*

*And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.” <sup>10</sup>Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. <sup>12</sup>This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. <sup>13</sup>Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 2 Corinthians 9:8-13 NIV*

**3. Give faithfully.**

*And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19 NIV*

## TALK IT OVER

**Read Mark 12:41-44.** What does this passage teach you about generosity? What might happen if you were to give more than you're comfortable giving?

Share about a time when someone was generous toward you. What was that experience like, and what did you learn about God's generosity?

Talk about ways greed can keep you from God. How would your life look different if you chose to give generously, cheerfully, and faithfully more often?

Read the *Being Generous: With and Without Money* Bible Plan together using Plans With Friends: [www.go2.lc/overflow](http://www.go2.lc/overflow)