



SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

7

HABITS FOR CHRISTLIKENESS





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1

CHURCH
COMMUNITY

Heb. 10:24–25
Acts 2:42–47



2

SCRIPTURE

Ps. 1:2–3
2 Tim. 3:16–17



3

FASTING

Matt. 6:16–18
Acts 13:2–3



4

PRAYER

Luke 5:16
Phil. 4:6–7



5

SABBATH,
SILENCE, AND
SOLITUDE

Mark 6:31
Ps. 46:10



6

GENEROSITY
AND SERVICE

Acts 20:35
1 Pet. 4:10



7

WITNESS AND
OUTREACH

Matt. 28:19–20
Acts 1:8

Your Watering System

A watering system does not create life itself. Only God can do that (**John 15:5**).

The goal is **relational** instead of **transactional**. To create conditions where growth can flourish.

To live the “**good life**” that Jesus lived by looking at His habits and priorities.

The Disciplines - Not About Justification

We are justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone, NOT by works, lest anyone should boast. (Eph 2:8-9)

The Disciplines create ways to **abide, trust, obey, and grow.**

Be “Doers” of the Word:

“22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

James 1:22

The Disciplines help us to practice being “doers” of the word.



GENEROSITY, SERVICE, AND SECRECY

Giving our lives for others



2 Cor. 9:6–7



Mark 10:45



Matt. 6:1–4

Main Texts: Lk 16:10-13; 2nd Cor. 9:6-8; John 13:12-17;
Mark 10:42-45; Matt 6:1-4.

Big Idea:

The disciplines of Generosity, Service & Secrecy have ministry to God and others in primary view, while encouraging the practitioner to put others before themselves. Love, trust, & humility are being strengthened, while pride, selfishness, & fear are weakened.

Generosity: Love in Action

Def: Generosity is the quality of being unselfish, kind, and ready to share money, time, or goods. It means giving freely to help others without expecting anything back.

Generosity: Jesus As Our Example

God the Father so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son (John 3:16)

Jesus gave His life fully, in every aspect, to fulfill the will of God and to serve, teach and love people. His generosity and service encapsulated His whole life.

Generosity: What can we give?

God has freely given to us different things we can share, here are the categories of things to be generous with:

Time: listening, teaching, being with others, serving, etc

Talents: using/giving skills/abilities

Treasures: giving money or property

Generosity: Temporary to Eternal

The resources we have been trusted with are temporary, but we can use them to have eternal impact.

How are you stewarding His resources?
Are you treating them as such?

Generosity: Money is NOT God

Jesus: “You cannot serve God and mammon.” “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Money is the least of things to be faithful with, the first thing, so that it does not master and enslave you. (Lk 16:10-13)

Generosity: Practicing It

Giving away that which we are tempted to hoard for the purpose of exercising faith in God and blessing others.

Godly Portfolio Diversification!

Giving in, Time, Talent and Treasures.

Service: Love in Action

Serving walks hand in hand with having a generous heart. And invests resources in an action-oriented way. Being “doers” of the word unto God and others.

Service: Love in Action

Washing Feet: The goal of following Christ in becoming the servant of all for the kingdom's sake.

Service: Others-focused; helps us to combat self-centeredness & comfort obsession.

Secrecy: Giving God the Credit!

The Discipline of Secrecy - the art of doing your best to be anonymous in your giving or serving in order that God would be most glorified, and you would purposely receive no credit from others.

***Works against pride and for humility.**

Sunday Challenges

1. How is God calling you to practice generosity?
2. What areas is God calling you into service or to continue in? What areas to reconsider?
3. Where can you practice secrecy in your giving and service?
4. Make a plan, share it with a friend & start!

Resources/ Bibliography:

1. Jack's handout!
2. The bible and Jesus life!
3. Dallas Willard's "The Spirit of The Disciplines"
4. Dunnett, Walter M. "Servant, Service." In Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology, Electronic ed., 725–26. Baker Reference Library. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1996.
5. Mark Allan Powell, "Generosity," in Dictionary of Scripture and Ethics, ed. Joel B. Green (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011), 324.
6. Martin Saunders, The Beautiful Disciplines: Helping Young People to Develop Their Spiritual Roots (Oxford, England: Monarch Books, 2012). [See [here](#), [here](#).]