

#### **LIVING FREE, GETTING UNSTUCK** - "Why Generosity Matters" | Neil Montgomery

### **Warming Up** (Discussion Starters, icebreakers, transitions)

- Are you more of a saver, a spender, or a give-it-away-er? Why do you think that is?
- Can you think of a time someone's generosity deeply impacted you personally?

# **Digging Deeper** (Note: Lines of thought from the Bible can be found in blue! These aren't in the participant guide.)

- **Read 1 Corinthians 16:1–4.** What stands out to you in Paul's instructions for giving? Why do you think he gave such clear and practical steps?
  - Point out how Paul's plan for giving was scheduled, systematic, universal, and proportionate. You could ask: How do we see each of those qualities in the passage?
- In 1 Timothy 6:17–19, Paul commands the wealthy to be "rich in good deeds" and "willing to share."
  - What attitudes does Paul confront in this passage—and how does it contrast with our cultural view of money and success?
    - You could highlight the warning against arrogance and putting hope in wealth. Another angle: explore how generosity shapes spiritual life ("take hold of the life that is truly life").
- **Proverbs 3:9–10** talks about honoring God with our "firstfruits." Why is giving off the top—rather than from leftovers—so important spiritually?
  - The emphasis could be on trust and worship. It's not just about money, it's about priority and dependence on God.
- The sermon described the shift from biblical generosity to our modern "tip culture." What are the dangers of generosity becoming an emotional response instead of a spiritual discipline? Maybe a worthwhile discussion on how emotions fade, but habits form character.
- How can we cultivate generosity as a regular rhythm of life?

## Bringing It Home (Application)

- On a scale from 1–10, how disciplined would you say you are in the area of generosity? What would it take to move that number up even one notch?
  - What's one practical way you could begin giving more intentionally, whether that's money, time, or talent?
- What would it look like to start treating generosity with the same importance you give to other spiritual disciplines like prayer, Scripture reading, or worship?
- Is there anything requiring faith that God is prompting you to give to someone or something?

## Pray together.