OUT THERE Part 4: Better Than

Objective: Objective: To challenge us to develop the habit of generosity in our lives.

Read together:

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

Acts 20:35

I have learned to be <u>content</u> whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the <u>secret of being content</u> in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:11b-13

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Then he said to them, "Watch out! <u>Be on your guard against all kinds of greed;</u> life <u>does not consist</u> in an <u>abundance</u> of <u>possessions</u>."

Luke 12:15

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to <u>serve others</u>, as faithful <u>stewards of</u> God's grace in its various forms.

I Peter 4:10

- When you hear, "It's more blessed to give than receive" what comes to your mind? Do you truly believe that's true?
- When you think about changing the world, what kind of activities do you normally think of?
- Have you/do you battle with being discontent? What sorts of things do you think will make your more content? Have you tried being generous as an antidote to discontentment?
- The pastor said that very few people ever recognize or admit greed in their own lives. What about you? Do you ever consider yourself greedy? How does generosity kill greed?
- Following Jesus requires a life of faith. How can practicing generosity cause that faith to grow? Do you trust God to provide what you need even after you give away what you have?
- Have you ever seen God use someone's generosity (maybe yours) to be a blessing to others? Tell the group about it.
- How have you seen generosity be contagious? Do you really believing giving can inspire others and change the world? Why or why not?

Final Thought: When we are willing to give, we are blessed and the world changes for the better.

This Week: Look for one way to be generous towards someone.