

# WOMEN IN THE WORD FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

## THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Scripture Reference Notes – April 7, 2026

Week 9: Replacing Greed and Anxiety with Generosity and Faith

**GREED:** Latin: avaritia - An intense, selfish, and insatiable desire to possess more than one needs, particularly wealth, power or status.

Types of greed:

Biblical examples of greed:

- a. *Luke 12:13-21 Someone in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But He said to him, “Man, who appointed Me a judge or arbitrator over you?” Then He said to them, “**Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.**” And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?’ So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”*
- b. *Matthew 19:16-24 And someone came to Him and said, “Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?” And He said to him, “Why are you asking Me about what is good? There is only One who is good; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.” Then he said to Him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, “**YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER; YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY; YOU SHALL NOT***

*STEAL; YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS; HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER; and YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept; what am I still lacking?” Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property. And Jesus said to His disciples, “Truly I say to you, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. “Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.*

- c. *Hebrews 13:5* Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, for God has said: “Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you.”

Greed and idolatry are close cousins.

Idolatry: Idolatry refers to the act of giving ultimate devotion, reverence, or worship to any entity, object, or concept in place of the one true Creator. It encompasses external images or symbols, as well as **internal attitudes and desires that substitute for genuine devotion to God.**

An idol is **ANYTHING** that takes God’s place in our heart.

- a. *Ephesians 5:5* For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.
- b. *Matthew 6:24* No one can serve two masters: Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

**GENEROSITY:** The quality of being generous; liberality in principle; a disposition to give liberally or to bestow favors; a quality of the heart or mind opposed to meanness or thriftiness.

## Biblical examples of generosity:

- a. *Deuteronomy 24:19-21 When you reap your harvest in your field and have forgotten a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be for the alien, for the orphan, and for the widow, in order that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.*
- b. *Malachi 3:10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and put Me to the test now in this,” says the LORD of armies, “if I do not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.*
- c. *Luke 10:30-37 Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. “And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. “Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. “But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. “On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.’ “Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?” And he said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same.”*
- d. *John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son.*

## Applications:

- a. Why should I be generous?
- b. Where can I be generous?
- c. How can I foster the spirit of generosity?

**ANXIETY:** *noun* angzi'ety. [Latin anxietas, from anxius, solicitous; Latin ango] Apprehensive uneasiness or nervousness usually over an impending or anticipated misfortune.

Wikipedia defines Anxiety: Anxiety is an emotion characterized by an unpleasant state of inner turmoil and includes feelings of dread over anticipated events. **Anxiety is different from fear in that fear is defined as the emotional response to a present threat, whereas anxiety is the anticipation of a future one.**

Biblical examples of anxiety:

*Exodus 4:1, Exodus 4:10, 1 Kings 19:1-3, Psalm 55:4-5; Psalm 38:8*

*Luke 14:33-34* describes Jesus' distress: "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, 'Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done.'"

*Matthew 26:38, John 12:27, Matthew 26:37, Luke 22:44*

*Hebrews 4:15* reminds us: "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."

*John 14:27* says "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

**FAITH:** 1828 Webster's Dictionary defines FAITH: *noun* [Latin fides, fido, to trust] Evangelical, justifying, or saving *faith* is the assent of the mind to the truth of divine revelation, on the authority of God's testimony, accompanied with a cordial assent of the will or approbation (approval or praise) of the heart; **an entire confidence or trust in God's character and declarations, and in the character and doctrines of Christ, with an unreserved surrender of the will to his guidance.**

Examples of faith:

Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John....Paul.

*Matthew 6:33-34 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

**In conclusion:**

1. Whatever we have, it isn't ours. Let us hold with open hands the blessings God provides to us to share with others --- To Him be the glory!!
2. Open the doors to your homes. Nothing compares to the generosity of God, but we can certainly follow His example with believers and non-believers alike by being welcoming and caring.
3. Do not let anxiety be king of your life. God is King and there is only room for one on the throne.
4. We have a King that we can trust --- moment by moment --- that HE understands us better than anyone else and HIS PROMISES are kept.

*Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

**Resources used in this study:**

Tony Evans NSAB Study Bible  
Heaven Rules, Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth  
Keys to Kingdom Greatness, Steve Elkins

*Next Lesson – April 14  
Week 10 – A New Vision for Relationships*