

## **Am I Generous?**

February 8th, 2017

Do your best to keep all of your answers to about 30-60 seconds. Please be respectful in listening to others and in honoring their time.

- Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so friends keep each other sharp.
- Romans 12:10 Show family affection to one another with brotherly love. Outdo one another in showing honor.
- 1. Introduce yourself including your: name, your current job, and a "10-second tell" about how you got connected to River of Life.
- 2. What areas of your life do you find yourself most generous and others focused and where do you tend to be more selfish or self-centered...
  - Time (volunteering time/talent)
  - Talk (praise or encouragement)
  - Treasure (resources)
- 3. Like the Sea of Galilee, we need an outlet if we are to remain full of life. What are some ways you can be generous to others in your time, talk, or treasure this week?
  - Be specific so you can be intentional about developing this trait in your life.
- 4. We often have a backwards view of God's love:
- If I can love other people good enough, they will love me.
- When other people love me, I can love me.
- When I love myself (and get my life right), I will be able to love God (read my Bible and pray and worship and act the way I'm "supposed" to).
- When I can love God enough, then God will love me.

Here is the truth that God spoke of in Scripture:

- God loves me. (John 3:16 There are no conditions to this truth. It simply is.)
- When I realize how deeply God loves me, I love and accept myself. (Eph 2:10)
- When I accept who I am, I begin to love God in return. (1 Jn 4:19)
- As I love God, His love for others overflows in me and pours out from me. (1 Jn 4:7)
- When I love others with a genuine love, they often love in return. (1 Thes 3:12-13)

Which pieces of this upside-down love pyramid can you identify in your life?

- 5. Have you ever had a chance to give extravagantly (remember it's not the amount)?
  - What was the story/outcome?
  - If God asked to use you in an extravagant way, what might your response/ arguments be?