

THIS IS US

THIS IS US, PART 5: GENEROSITY, AN ISSUE OF THE HEART

“Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.” - The Apostle Paul (1 Cor. 8:7)

BIG IDEA: *If God has our heart, then we won't hold back anything from him.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think the church talks too much about money? If so, in what way? How does talking about money make you feel?
2. When you hear “Generosity is a heart issue”, what is your first thought? Do you think of God as generous? Why or why not?
3. *With your Bible or Bible App, read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8*

Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NLT)

4. What does this scripture teach us about God's posture towards our giving? What promises are made by God in this scripture? What does it mean to “give cheerfully?”
5. God doesn't give to us so we can hoard; He gives to us so we can share with others (2 Corinthians 9:11). When was one time you received something that you realized was a perfect gift you could give to someone else?
6. Jesus didn't just talk about giving money; giving is a mentality about everything God puts in our hands (Luke 6:27-38). What is one thing you have trouble giving to others: the benefit of the doubt, forgiveness, time, honesty, kindness?
7. During the message Carlo said, “If we want to lead people into a growing relationship with Christ, if we want to change the world, then we can't sit on the sideline holding back.” How can we give cheerfully this week? What steps can you take to get off of the bench?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

What are some things you haven't fully given over to God: your marriage, finances, kids, time, work, or something else? What's stopping you from giving God access to and influence over every part of your life?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

“The people have given more than enough materials to complete the job the Lord has commanded us to do!”...Their contributions were more than enough to complete the whole project - Exodus 36:5,7 (NLT)