

## Relatability - Generosity

Ice Breaker: What is the best gift you've ever received? What is the best gift you've ever given?

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35b)*

**Relational generosity is motivated by love** – "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

‡ **The greatest gift you can give another is not relational competency but godly character** – "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies." (Prov. 31:10) - What character virtues do you value in yourself and in others? See if those virtues are listed below.

**Expressing generosity through the gift of godly virtues...**

- **Humility** – "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you." (Rom. 12:3) – Do you tend to think more highly, more lowly or soberly/accurately of yourself? What would your spouse say? Who in your life could help you think with sober judgement about your yourself? What would it take for you to let them help?
- **The smallest gift in the world is a person wrapped up in himself** – "A man's pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor." (Prov. 29:23) – Who needs to receive your gift of humility? What might that look like?
  - **Integrity** – "They came to Him and said, 'Teacher, we know you are a man of integrity. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.'" (Mark 12:14) – For the integrity bullets below, give yourself a letter grade? Which needs the most work, and in what specific scenarios might you work on it?
    - **Accuracy: speak the truth** (Prov. 12:22)
    - **Credibility: keep your word** (Matt. 5:37)
    - **Courage: do what's right** (James 4:17)
  - **Charity** – "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Eph. 4:32) – How might you be more kind. If you struggle to answer, ask your spouse/friend/family how you you might be more kind the them?
  - **Purity** – "If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work." (2 Tim. 2:21) As a group list some impure things from our current culture that threaten our growth in character.
  - **Sacrifice** – "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (Heb. 13:16) Name the thing(s) that threatens to come in between you and your spouse/friends/family? How might you sacrifice in order to benefit that relationship?

‡ **If godly virtue is what you want to pour out, then you have to guard what you store up** – "The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart." (Luke 6:45a) – What ungodly thing might you be "storing up" that needs to be cut off. What might you fill it with in its place?

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (Col. 3:17) – Of the 5 Godly virtues bulleted above, which needs the most attention? How might you go about it this week giving it the attention needed in order that you can grow a bit in character? Maybe share it with the group and pray for the strength to do it.