

## **THIS IS WHO WE ARE- WEEK 4 GENOROSITY**

But generous people plan to do what is generous,  
and they stand firm in their generosity.

Isaiah 32:8

Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us<sup>[c]</sup>—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.  
2 Corinthians 8:7

### **Biblical Order of Finances:**

- 1. Tithing**
- 2. Giving**
- 3. Lifestyle of Generosity**

### **Generosity flows out of a heart of devotion.**

A woman came into the house, holding an alabaster flask filled with expensive, fragrant oil. She came right to Jesus, and in a lavish gesture of devotion, she poured out the costly oil, and it cascaded over his head as he was at the table. When the disciples saw this, they were offended. “What a total waste!” they grumbled. “We could have sold it for a great deal of money and given it to the poor.” Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Why are you so critical of this woman? She has done a beautiful act of kindness. You will always have someone poor whom you can help, but you will not always have me. When she poured the fragrant oil over me, she was preparing my body for burial. I promise you that when this wonderful gospel spreads all over the world, the story of her lavish devotion to me will also be mentioned in memory of her.”

Matthew 26:7-13

- Can my devotion be described as lavish?
- It's not about an amount. It's about a heart of pure & utter devotion to Christ.
- It's who we are. We are devoted followers of Christ.
- It all starts here.
- What legacy am I leaving? A legacy of generous devotion or of keeping?

### **Generosity creates a refreshing life.**

The generous will prosper;  
those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:25

- Object lesson
- We forget that God is the one who poured out the refreshing on us to begin with. It's all His (1 Chronicles 29)

- Trying to be a Christian and not be generous is like trying to hold onto water.
- It's who we are- we were created in the image of generous God.
- We're not meant to keep the refreshing to ourselves.
- What does it mean for a Christian to prosper? To accomplish our Father's work, to honor Jesus, to see the lost saved.
- Is my increase leading to that kind of prosperity?
- Is my generosity leading others to the living water?

Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. <sup>19</sup> By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

1 Timothy 6:18-19

#### RESPONSE TIME:

- Where am I trying to hold onto water that should be used to refresh others? Decide now to be generous.
- It starts with tithing- 90 day tithe challenge
- Accept His generous gift of salvation
- Evidence- let's take a few minutes and remind ourselves that our devotion belongs to Him