

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

Generosity: having a heart to give freely and offer help to others.

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9.7

ALL IN

*******LIFE GROUP LEADERS SHARE THEIR GIVING STORY THIS WEEK.*******

It's up to you how you want to work this into this week's study but just remember you don't have to give any specific figures, that's your business with God. What you need to do is just model the process you have gone through as you come before Him in humility and surrender to seek His will for you and your family as part of the Coastal vision and mission.

STARTER QUESTIONS:

When was the last time you felt really out of control? Was it voluntary or involuntary? How do you handle those situations?

Have you ever done one of those trust exercise with family/friends/coworkers? How did you feel about it? Were you the “I’ll jump right in!” or the “I know Sally... there’s not a chance I’m doing this.” Kind of person?

MAIN IDEA:

To be **All In** and generous, we must be trusting.

From the message this week:

"God doesn't demand that we have a lot – but he does want us to trust him with whatever he has given us – big or small."

KEY VERSE:

“The same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 4:19 NLT*

Topics for discussion:

In the message, Pastor Hank gave us 3 foundational truths to becoming a generous person.

1. **Little is much when God is in it.**

Do you remember the story of the widow who gave two pennies? If not, let's read Luke 21:1-4.

Do you feel like you've ever been on one side of this story? Like the widow whose gift felt insignificant or the rich people who mocked a small gift?

The widow also gave so much of what she had. We have no record of whether God blessed her, but Jesus seems to indicate that He would. Have you ever had a time in your life where you think God expanded what you had to make it "enough?"

Do you remember the boy who brought Jesus his loaves and fishes to feed 5000? Do you think all the adults (including the disciples) mocked him? What can we learn from His faithfulness?

2. You can't out-give God

"Give, and it will be given to you. You will have more than enough. It can be pushed down and shaken together and it will still run over as it is given to you. The way you give to others is the way you receive in return."
Luke 6:39 NLT

Now we need to clarify – if we give \$100, does God promise he'll make it \$200? Why or why not? What else could this verse mean? Besides financially, how else does God provide? (*perhaps contentment? Maybe we won't get money back, but maybe he'll teach us to live with less than we thought we needed*).

But God doesn't want us to give like we're drawing lottery tickets – he wants us to give to be obedient and to trust that he knows best.

Pastor Hank talked about 5 types of givers:

Initial – First time trusting and giving.

Consistent – Choosing an amount and giving regularly.

Intentional – Thinking beyond what seems easy.

Sacrificial – How could I adjust my life to give more?

Lifetime – being fully sold out that everything we have is God's and we need to ask him not what we should give but what we should keep.

Where are you? Where would you like to be?

3. Life is fragile, but God is faithful

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."
Matt 3:5-6 (NLT)

Often God will challenge us to give or sacrifice or trust when we feel like we have nothing left. Why do you think that is?

Have you ever trusted God and seen him come through? Does that give you courage to trust more? What about how God has provided for others?

Are there people in scripture that trusted God and we saw him come through? Read Hebrews Chapter 11. Focus on Verse 32-40.

Some people who trusted God had great outcomes, some struggled, but....

*"[All] these were commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned **something better for us** so that only together with us would they be made perfect".*

Hebrews 11:39-40

FINAL THOUGHTS:

God challenges us to trust with money because it can be the most difficult place to trust. We can trust him with health because we often can't control that. However, we feel like we can control things better if we have more money. Giving up money is about giving up control. We should focus on controlling our budgets and believing God can do more with what we have than we can.

[All-In]
“Generosity”

Jesus: *“You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.”*
Mark 12:30 (NLT)

ALL-IN Initiatives:

- Ministry Budget
- Additional Coastal Kid’s space
- Renovate Building “B” (Student) space
- Planting 2 Campuses
- Impact Projects through our ministry partners both here and around the world (South Africa and Haiti)

2 Goals:

- Primary Goal: 100% participation
- Secondary Goal: to raise \$3.9 million over next 2 years

“While Jesus was in the Temple, he watched the rich people putting their gifts into the collection box. Then a poor widow came by and dropped in two pennies. “I assure you,” he said, “this poor widow has given more than all the rest of them. For they have given a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she has.”
Luke 21:1-4 (NIV)

3 foundational truths to becoming a generous person:

1. “Little is much when God is in it.”
2. “You can’t out-give God.”

“Give, and it will be given to you. You will have more than enough. It can be pushed down and shaken together and it will still run over as it is given to you. The way you give to others is the way you will receive in return.”
Luke 6:38 (NLT)

Types of Givers:

- Initial Giver
- Consistent Giver: (1 Cor. 16:1-2)

- Intentional Giver: (Malachi 3:10)
- Sacrificial Giver: (2 Samuel 24:24)
- Lifetime Giver: (Proverbs 13:22)

3. "Life is fragile, but God is faithful."

"He will keep you strong to the end so that you will be free from all blame on the day when our Lord Jesus Christ returns. God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." 1 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NLT)

"This same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19 (NLT)

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)