

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to help you talk about God's word and Pastor Brian's message with friends and family. You of course can use your own questions, but we'd like to give you this tool to encourage Biblical fellowship and discipleship in your circle of relationships. *Enjoy discovering more about Him!*

"GIVING GENEROUSLY" | EXODUS 35-39 | PASTOR BRIAN

WARM-UP QUESTION:

What is a story, movie or song that is inspiring for being generous?

"The Children of Israel Giving Generously" - (Exodus 35-39)

God asks the people of Israel to give towards the building of the tabernacle even though He had shown with His power He could do this without them. What does that show about God? What does that mean for His people?

Exodus 35 repeatedly shows people who gave because their hearts were "stirred", were "willing", were "moved". What does that show about the kind of giver that God wants? What gets in the way of being that kind of giver?

"Calvary Murrieta Giving Generously"

Pastor Brian shared many ways Calvary Murrieta showed generosity towards the Rohingya refugees in Nepal. What stuck out to you?

REFLECTION QUESTION:

2 Corinthians 9:8 says "And God will generously provide all that you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others." Authentic generosity comes from a place of believing you have been blessed and want to share those blessings with others. When you think about what you have, do you honestly believe that God has been generous towards you? What opportunities do you believe God has for you to give generously to others?

Giving Generously

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2-8 Ap: Camp. Office & Vet parade. Surv Holidays (both). CG. TY.
- B. Slide9 Prayer tonight. *Combo*: monthly prayer & monthly Missions prayer.
- C. Prayer: What can we give to a God that has everything? God we give you are treasures, time, talents. Our obedience, our willingness, our hands & feet, our hearts & minds. To You be *all glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.*

II. Slide10 Intro: GIVING GENEROUSLY

- A. This morning I'm going to cover ch's. 35-39 by simply highlighting some of the main points. Then I want it to apply it to *you the body at CM, how you have accomplished the same.* Next week we'll wrap up with *When Glory Came Down.*

III. Slide11 The Children of Israel GIVING GENEROUSLY (Ch.35-39)

- A. Read (35:4-10)
- B. Giving What You Have (Treasure). Giving What You Do (Time/Talents).
- C. Slide12a This shows Gods normal way He Channels Resources to His work.
 1. He does it ... *by* using His people, that give from a willing heart.
 - a) Note: *all the congregation; a contribution to the Lord; whoever is of a generous heart.*
 2. The people gave because **God** told them to, *not* because of Moses' *fundraising techniques*.
 3. Wait, could not have God made the tabernacle Himself? (of course) But Slide12b God invites His children to be *kingdom builders with Him*.
 4. The reason for **giving** was for **Israel's heart**. (God doesn't have needs)
- D. Your giving, at your church, should not be because *well I better give or they can't pay the bills.* Your primary reason for giving is because you need to learn be a giver.

1. Yes practically there are needs here at CM (elec, water, ministry needs, etc.) but again the *primary reason* to give isn't for the bodies needs but for the individual's need (your heart's need).
 2. He's teaching us to be like Himself. *For God so loved the world that He gave*
 3. Slide13 Yes, it's the same in NT. 2 Cor.9:7-10 NLT *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." 8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. 9 As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever." 10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.* (wow)
- E. We note great *Project Management* in these chapters: Cost, blueprints, materials, labor, craftsmanship, timing, etc. *So organized.*
- F. Don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure.
1. Moses told them *now go home and think about it* (35:20). Didn't tug on heart strings to *give now!* Actually their hearts were willing to give but didn't know when or for what to give to.
 2. Nothing wrong with the pastor or leader saying, *hey there's a need here, or this is the vision, or this is the time.* But God forbid if it's done with manipulation and pressure. God wants it to be *freewill giving*, an *exercise of your heart.*
- G. See in 35:21 *everyone whose hearts stirred him; 22 all who were of a willing heart; 26 all the women whose hearts were stirred; 29 all the men and women, the people of Israel, whose heart moved them to bring anything; 29b it is a free will offering to the Lord.*
1. Ps: we are *not* going to be taking a *special offering* this morning :)

2. Actually my message is about what you **already have accomplished**.
I want to simply **report back** what Larry & I **saw** and **heard** regarding ***your Kingdom investment!***

H. So don't allow yourself to ever be **manipulated by giving** but **instead be responsive** to the call if its from the Lord.

1. Moses didn't make **12 cardboard thermometers** challenging the tribe of Benjamin to give more than the tribe of Dan.

I. (35:22-29) **Everyone** could/should play a part, to share in this project. (see) *Everyone, men, women, the wealthy* (see *leaders/wealthy* vs.27), *the poor*.

1. Some gave **precious stones** and some **goat hair**.

J. **Slide14 Read** Ch.36:2-7. It was time to do the work. Gave every morning. Craftsmen said **stop giving**. Then Moses said **stop giving** (said no church ever).

1. Picture being an Israelite standing in line *ready to give* (some thought *yahoo I get to keep it*, maybe?) but I think most realized, *wait, I missed giving & being a part of this great work of the Lord?*

K. In ch.'s 37-39 Is the actual **building** of the Tabernacle. **Then** in 39:32 *Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished*.

IV. Slide15 **CM GIVING GENEROUSLY (1-1)** *let's apply these principles*

A. If you are new, or didn't hear, **Larry and I went to visit our friends in Nepal**.

1. They are one of our **UPG's** called the **Rohingya**, who fled persecution in Myanmar back in 2012, **and** find themselves today into settlements in Nepal. (2 pieces of property with 420 people)

2. The Rohingya are people that we consider **friends**. They are *not a project, & not a problem*. They know they are **loved & appreciated** by us.

3. **We are helping them to be self-sufficient & self-supportive**.
(via training or schooling or tools for their trade, *their choice*)

4. We are allowing time to **establish true trust** and help them work through their traumatic life experiences.
5. We are avoiding paternalism by partnering with them, not telling them what to do.
6. We are using an **asset-based approach** (instead of **needs based**, i.e. *they need food, rich Westerner writes a check*) we started w/asking what were **their** capabilities, skills, & resources. Which shows them **dignity & respect**.
7. Kel quoted in our Church Fri Newsletter, *“When you **adopt**, you’re saying: I’m going to join you in the pain. I’m going to join you in the trauma. I’m going to join you in the loss and the grief of your story. I’m going to walk with you rather than above you or in front of you.”* Sandhya Oaks
 - a) It also speaks to our **adoption** of this people group, that we now call **friends**.

B. **Slide16** We learned from this trip, *Like in Ex.35,36 it doesn’t take a **Village**, it takes a **Church**. All of our **Treasure, Time, & Talents** to accomplish the reaching of this people group in their greatest time of need. (most persecuted people on the planet)*

1. Our **4th Value** of our church is **Stewardship: *Serving God with generous hearts as we invest our **time, talent, & treasure** in building His kingdom.***
2. **Hey Kingdom builders, thank you** for allowing **Lar & I** to represent you in Nepal.

C. **You Gave What You Had** (Treasure).

1. Some participated with their **Finances** *over these last 6 months: In helping with food, built 15 new houses (corrugated metal & bamboo), fix water well, 2 electric meters, mosquito nets.*

D. **You Gave What You Do** (Time & Talents).

1. **Larry & I** did not knit these **beanies**. *This is a reminder that we **should do** what God has called us to **do**. It also means that we **shouldn’t try to do***

what God has not called us to do. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

- a) Thank you to the Women's ministry for giving so many gifts to Dave/Becky.
- b) Thank you to the Youth ministry for giving so many gifts to Zach & Dariah.
- c) Thank you to Chris Wryn who ran to Nevada to pick up a water filter for them.
- d) Thank you to our airport drivers Irv & Norm.
- e) Thank you to Larry's sister-in-law Janet, daughter Landy, and all the "nifty nitters" (from Encinitas & beyond) for knitting all the beanies.
- f) TY to Lori Slaughter for her gifts. Other items from our missions fund that a % of your tithe dollars filled in the rest.

2. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

- a) Making all the things for the Tabernacle required a large number of people with a wide range of skills. And so does reaching the Rohingya's.
- b) As the Scripture says, *God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. 11 Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.* 1 Pet. 4:10,11

E. Slide17-19 We are loved by Rohingya's. 3 Plaques.

1. That relationship is because of **you**. You have given generously.
2. They don't believe they are alone, because we are with them.
3. **My favorite quote** from our Rohingya Leaders Mtg: *Other Muslim donors help us, but only you have visited us and showed us love.*

F. Slide20,21 We are appreciated by the Nepali Government officials.

1. This group of 19 we met with were a *like-minded group* (big hearts for refugees, basic human rights, their care). They knew the Ro (just not "their story - their history" where they came from **or** why they came). They were very helpful to us.

G. **Slide22-34** *Show last Pic's.*

H. **Slide35** **Rohingya Prayer Initiative:** Pray4Rohingya.org launched a new **prayer initiative**. You can now receive prayer updates via **WhatsApp**. The **goal** of the new initiative is to send out **current prayer requests** on a regular basis. You will get **real time prayer updates and requests** from people engaging the Rohingya around the globe. You can get signed up by scanning the QR code. See **Larry or Andrew** by the welcome center to get signed up.

I. **Make sure you see the 2 carpet displays in the foyer.** That is your Thank You from the original 9 widows trained in carpet weaving.

J. **Wrap up with this.** Moses ends ch.39:43 by saying, *And Moses saw all the work, and behold, they had done it; as the Lord had commanded, so had they done it. Then Moses **blessed** them.*

1. **And if I may bless you. *The Lord bless you and keep you CM; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you you generous friends; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.***

K. **Keywords:** Give, thankfulness, love,