

Overflow



Leader Conversation Guide – Irrational Generosity

Main Idea

This week Pastor Curt continued in our Overflow series. Remember that overflow means ‘to Go beyond your limits’. The only way to go beyond your limits, is to let God into the equation. It’s vital that we recognize that in generosity. When we read Luke 12:34, we tend to get this mixed-up. Too often where our heart is, that is where we spend our money. God doesn’t care as much about your money, He cares about your heart. The difference between acting generous and being generous is intentionality. You have to have a plan! God wants something **for** you, not **from** you. We don’t give to get. We get to give. And then, we get, to give. We get to give again. It always ends in - to give. We worship when we give.

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller."

Proverbs 11:24 MSG

Make it Practical

- **God MUST be first.** The reason God wants to be first in your money is because it’s directly tied to your heart. In the Old Testament the sacrificial system God established the principle of the **first**. The firstfruits in the OT was literally an investment in their future blessing.
- **The tithe must be first.** This simply means that we set aside the first 10% of our increase for Kingdom purpose. In that we are trusting God to be our source. In reality, we are returning the tithe, we are not giving. You cannot give something that doesn’t belong to you. And we have to recognize that the firstfruits are God’s.
- **It must be blessed to multiply.** God wants to bless you! But He wants to bless you to increase your standard of giving, not your standard of living.

Talk About It

- Share what types of fears or concerns, if any, you wrestle with most when thinking about the principle of first? Discuss why it is sometimes easier to believe that we need to be in "complete control" of our finances, rather than having faith that God will bless us and care for our needs?
- Proverbs 3:9–10 says that we are to honor the Lord with our possessions and with the firstfruits of all our increase. Take a minute to reflect on a time that you gave your time, talents, tithe, or offering. It could be big or little. Share how you saw God work when you gave.
- Aside from money, what is one way that you can start giving God your "first" this week?

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Luke 12:34 NIV

Prayer

God, thank You for showing us in your Word how we can experience blessing and provision in our finances and our lives. We confess that we have often gone our own way with our money and recognize that Your way is better. Today, we commit to putting You first in every area of our lives. We trust that as we give You our first, You will bless the rest. In Your sovereign and Holy name we pray. Amen.

Leader Tip

Money can be a challenging topic for some group members. Be sensitive to the financial situations represented in your group. Encourage each person to take one step (even if it is small) this week.