Generous

Leader Conversation Guide – Generous (Part II)

Main Idea

This week Pastor Curt continued in our series Generous. Again, let's take an honest look at how we are doing with what God has put in our hands. He highlighted the powerful reminder in Luke 12 that we are more than what we do and more than what we have. Pastor Curt was sure to remind us that the church doesn't want anything from you, but everything that God has for you! God wants you to manage what you have well, and he wants you to be generous with what you have. So, what is biblical generosity?

The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped.

PROVERBS II:24-25

Make it Practical: What is Biblical Generosity

- <u>It's about order.</u> Exodus 13:1-2 reads, "The Lord said to Moses, "Consecrate to Me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to Me, whether human or animal." God shouldn't be an after thought when it comes to our giving. He should be first.
- <u>It's about value.</u> Proverbs 3:9-10 says, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." Ask yourself: Does God get my best, or just what's left over?
- <u>It's about obedience</u>. Leviticus 27:30 says, "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord." Are you returning to God what is His?
- <u>It's about legacy.</u> Exodus 13:14 tells us, "In days to come, when your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' say to him, 'With a mighty hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery." Our giving is an act of worship for what God has done.

Talk About It

- All that we have belongs to God but He only requires that we give 10% back to Him in the form of our tithe. Discuss why all we have belongs to God and why a tithe is important to Him.
- 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 are saved by faith than it is to believe by 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 first fruits 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 felt about yourself when you gave.

Start where you can: Build your faith. Return the tithe: Build the house. Give over and above: Build a legacy.

Prayer

God, thank you for giving your firstborn Son on our behalf. Please reveal any heart issues within us when it comes to tithing, and help us settle those questions in our hearts. Help us put you first every day. We want to to give you our first, and to surrender our finances to you, for the rest of our lives. Give us the faith to trust you will provide for our needs. Amen.

Leader Tip

When ministering to those in your group, remember ESPN: Encourage, Share Scripture, Pray, Next Steps.