

Generosity

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A lifestyle of caring about needs; giving joyfully and sacrificially to make a difference; sharing, open hands.

Benevolent Souls

Jesus said, “Finally, a Samaritan man came upon the robbed and bleeding man, and was moved with tender compassion for him.” (Luke 10:33 TPT)

Widow’s Trust (Luke 21:1-4)

Jesus’ Holy Spirit invites us to live generously. Generosity is a special, sacred way of life. It’s so much more than giving some of what I have to meet someone else’s needs. Generosity is rooted in our identity as God’s eternal sons and daughters. Generosity literally means, “born of nobility.” To live generously means to live like Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit helps me understand that all I need is Christ; he must be enough for me. Nothing I own in this world really belongs to me, and God designed me to be a channel for his abundant kingdom resources. Jesus taught us to store up heavenly treasures while intentionally giving away our earthly treasures to bless others. Let us be generous like the widow who gave away all she had, because she trusted God to provide.

Discipleship & Prayer

- Remember a time when someone gave generously.
- How do I live as though all I own belongs to God?
- Holy Spirit, give me a generous heart to bless others.

Amazing Love > Jesus said, “For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.”
(John 3:16-17 HCSB)

Blessing Vessels > Generosity brings prosperity, but withholding from charity brings poverty. Those who live to bless others will have blessings heaped upon them, and the one who pours out his life to pour out blessings will be saturated with favor. People will curse the businessman with no ethics, but the one with a social conscience receives praise from all.
(Proverbs 11:24-26 TPT)

Cornelius' Benevolence > In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, who was the captain of a group of soldiers called “The Italian Unit.” Cornelius was a very religious man. He worshiped God, and so did everyone else who lived in his house. He had given a lot of money to the poor and was always praying to God. One afternoon at about three o'clock, Cornelius had a vision. He saw an angel from God coming to him and calling him by name. Cornelius was surprised and stared at the angel. Then he asked, “What is this all about?” The angel answered, “God has heard your prayers and knows about your gifts to the poor.”
(Acts 10:1-4 CEV)

Dedicated Friends > David was in the stronghold, while the garrison of the Philistines was in Bethlehem. David said longingly, “Who would get me water to drink from the well which is by Bethlehem's gate?” So

the three mighty men broke through the Philistine lines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem by the gate, and brought it to David. However, he would not drink it, but poured it out to Adonai and he said, "Far be it from me, Adonai, that I should do this, the blood of the men who went in jeopardy of their lives?" So he would not drink it. These things the three mighty men did. (2 Samuel 23:14-17 TLV)

Deep Poverty > We make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God. (2 Corinthians 8:1-5 NKJV)

Everyday Prosperity > I pray for good fortune in everything you do, and for your good health, that your everyday affairs prosper, as well as your soul! I was most happy when some friends arrived and brought the news that you persist in following the Way of Truth. Nothing could make me happier than getting reports that my children continue diligently in the Way of Truth! (3 John 1:2-4 MSG)

Family Protection > A person's steps are directed by the LORD, and the LORD delights in his way. When he falls, he will not be thrown down headfirst because the LORD holds on to his hand. I have been young, and now I am old, but I have never seen a righteous

person abandoned or his descendants begging for food. He is always generous and lends freely. His descendants are a blessing. Avoid evil, do good, and live forever. (Psalm 37:23-27 GWT)

Fruitful Roots > John Baptizer said, “An ax is ready to cut the trees down at their roots. Any tree that doesn’t produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into a fire.” The crowds asked John, “What should we do?” John told them, “If you have two coats, give one to someone who doesn’t have any. If you have food, share it with someone else.” When tax collectors came to be baptized, they asked John, “Teacher, what should we do?” John told them, “Don’t make people pay more than they owe.” Some soldiers asked him, “And what about us? What do we have to do?” John told them, “Don’t force people to pay money to make you leave them alone. Be satisfied with your pay.” (Luke 3:9-14 CEV)

Greater Blessings > Paul said, “And now I commit you to God and to the message of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all who are sanctified. I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands have provided for my needs and for those who were with me. In every way I’ve shown you that by laboring like this, it is necessary to help the weak and to keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, for He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” After he said this, he knelt down and prayed with all of them. (Acts 20:32-36 HCSB)

Heart Storehouse > Jesus said, “No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each

tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.” (Luke 6:43-45 NIV)

Hope’s Foundation > Here’s what you say to those wealthy in regard to this age: “Don’t become high and mighty or place all your hope on a gamble for riches; instead, fix your hope on God, the One who richly provides everything for our enjoyment.” Tell them to use their wealth for good things; be rich in good works! If they are willing to give generously and share everything, then they will send ahead a great treasure for themselves and build their futures on a solid foundation. As a result, they will surely take hold of eternal life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19 VOICE)

Initiate Blessings > Jesus said, “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you, a good measure: pressed down, shaken together, and running over. The overflow will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.” (Luke 6:37-38 CSB)

Jesus’ Patrons > Jesus traveled through some cities and small towns. Jesus told the people a message from God, the Good News about God’s kingdom. The twelve apostles were with him. There were also some women with him. Jesus had healed these women of sicknesses and evil spirits. One of them was Mary, who was called Magdalene. Seven demons had come out

of her. Also with these women were Joanna, the wife of Chuza (the manager of Herod's property), Susanna, and many other women. These women used their own money to help Jesus and his apostles. (Luke 8:1-3 ERV)

Meeting Needs > Jesus said, "The king will say, 'I was hungry and you didn't give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you didn't welcome me. I was naked and you didn't give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.' Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life." (Matthew 25:42:46 CEB)

Messiah's Mercy > As the sun went down that evening, all the villagers who had any sick people in their homes, no matter what their diseases were, brought them to Jesus; and the touch of his hands healed every one! Some were possessed by demons; and the demons came out at his command, shouting, "You are the Son of God." But because they knew he was the Christ, he stopped them and told them to be silent. (Luke 4:40-41 TLB)

More Than Enough > They received from Moses all the contribution that the people of Israel had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning, so that all the craftsmen who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task that he was

doing, and said to Moses, “The people bring much more than enough for doing the work that the LORD has commanded us to do.” So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp, “Let no man or woman do anything more for the contribution for the sanctuary.” So the people were restrained from bringing, for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.
(Exodus 36:3-7 ESV)

Perfect Father > Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights; with him there is no variation or shadow cast by turning. By his own choice, he gave us a new birth by the Message of Truth so that we would be the first fruits of his creatures. (James 1:17-18 HCSB)

Personal Sacrifices > A man ran to Jesus and bowed down on his knees before him. The man asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to get the life that never ends?” Jesus answered, “Why do you call me good? Only God is good. And you know his commands: ‘You must not murder anyone, you must not commit adultery, you must not steal, you must not lie, you must not cheat, you must respect your father and mother.’” The man said, “Teacher, I have obeyed all these commands since I was a boy.” Jesus looked at the man in a way that showed how much he cared for him. He said, “There is still one thing you need to do. Go and sell everything you have. Give the money to those who are poor, and you will have riches in heaven. Then come and follow me.” The man was upset when Jesus told him to give away his money. He didn’t want to do this, because he was very rich. So he went away sad.
(Mark 4:17-22 ERV)

Restoration Culture > The LORD says, “If you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon. And I will always guide you and satisfy you with good things. I will keep you strong and well. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water, like a spring of water that never goes dry. Your people will rebuild what has long been in ruins, building again on the old foundations. You will be known as the people who rebuilt the walls, who restored the ruined houses.” (Isaiah 58:10-12 GNT)

Sharing Society > The group of believers was one in mind and heart. None of them said that any of their belongings were their own, but they all shared with one another everything they had. With great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God poured rich blessings on them all. There was no one in the group who was in need. Those who owned fields or houses would sell them, bring the money received from the sale, and turn it over to the apostles; and the money was distributed according to the peoples’ needs. (Acts 4:32-35 GNT)

Sow Good Seeds > Don’t be misled. Remember that you can’t ignore God and get away with it: a man will always reap just the kind of crop he sows! If he sows to please his own wrong desires, he will be planting seeds of evil and he will surely reap a harvest of spiritual decay and death; but if he plants the good things of the Spirit, he will reap the everlasting life that the Holy Spirit gives him. And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t get discouraged and give up. (Galatians 6:7-8 TLB)

Tenderhearted Charity > Moses said, “Beware of evil thoughts. Don’t think, “The seventh year is near, the year to cancel what people owe.” You might be mean to the needy and not give them anything. Then they will complain to the LORD about you, and he will find you guilty of sin. Give freely to the poor person, and do not wish that you didn’t have to give. The LORD your God will bless your work and everything you touch. There will always be poor people in the land, so I command you to give freely to your neighbors and to the poor and needy in your land.”
(Deuteronomy 15:9-11 NCV)

True Wealth > Jesus said, “Seek God’s kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”
(Luke 12:31-34 ESV)

Willing Minds > You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that through His poverty you might be rich. And in this matter I give my advice. It is appropriate for you, who began last year not only to give, but also to willingly give. Now therefore complete the task, so that, as there was a willingness to do so, there may be a performance of it according to your means. For if there is a willing mind first, the gift is accepted according to what a man possesses and not according to what he does not possess.
(2 Corinthians 8:9-12 MEV)