

9. Our generosity causes people to thank God and move closer to God. How does this truth affect your generosity?

10. What apprehensions do you have about practicing greater levels of generosity? How can you overcome them?

NOTES:

NOV. 13 - GENEROSITY (CONTINUED)

QUESTION & REFLECTION GUIDE

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READ:

Matthew 25:14-30

ASK:

1. You are blessed. Share some ways you are blessed.
2. Who is somebody you know who is generous? Name and describe some of the positive characteristics of generosity you see in them.
3. The world teaches scarcity. God continually demonstrates abundance. Are you more likely to practice scarcity or abundance?
4. Give an example of how you have seen a person or an organization practice scarcity. What was that like?
5. Give an example of how you have seen a person or an organization practice abundance. What was that like?
6. Share how you have witnessed The Water's Edge practice abundance. How has this abundance been a blessing to the recipients of the generosity? How have you been blessed by observing or participating in this abundance?
7. What are some risks of practicing abundance? What are the risks of not practicing abundance?
8. What is it like for you to watch somebody bury their talent and treasure in the ground and practice scarcity?
9. Jesus blessed those who took risks and practiced abundance. How have you been blessed by believing in abundance and practicing generosity?
10. Jesus models abundance with serving, forgiving, and giving. The three times we most look like Jesus are when we serve, when we forgive, and when we give. What is your next step in being restored to God's image?

READ:

Matthew 6:19-24 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

ASK:

1. Jesus never says money is a bad thing. But he talks about better things. What are some of those better things?
2. Jesus says: "Where our treasure is, there your heart will be." If you reviewed your spending habits, what would those habits say about your priorities?
3. Jesus says that money becomes bad when it becomes more important than God. What would your life look like if acquiring and possessing money were the primary value in your life? What would your life look like if pursuing God were the primary aim of your life?
4. Jesus talks about not stockpiling money, but investing it in God's Kingdom. Share a time you were blessed by investing in God's Kingdom. What was this blessing like for you?
5. One of the reasons you are blessed is so that you can be a blessing to others. Do you experience more joy in keeping your blessings for yourself or sharing them with others? Why?
6. God loves a cheerful giver. On a scale of 1 (it caused you physical pain and severe anxiety) to 10 (it's the highlight of your day), how do you feel when you share your financial resources?
7. "Generosity is God's gift to us." How do you feel about that phrase? How has generosity—either giving or receiving—been a blessing to you in the past?
8. Do you believe God can do more with your 90% than you can do with your 100%? What effect would greater generosity have on your faith?