Group Discussion Questions
Open Handed: Grace Filled Generosity

Generosity is about more than giving money. It's about allowing God's grace to change our hearts and how we live. In ***2 Corinthians 8***, we meet believers who faced difficult circumstances and financial struggles yet gave willingly and joyfully to help others. Why? They understood God's grace and wanted to be part of what He was doing. Their generosity wasn't driven by pressure or obligation, but by love and trust. **The grace of the Lord produces generous people who joyfully invest in His Kingdom.** As we grow in our relationship with Jesus, generosity becomes a natural part of our faith.

GET THINGS STARTED

1. Pastor Geoffrey shared stories of generosity through missions, Beltway Kids, Boot Camp, and others. Which story impacted you most? Why?
2. Can you remember a time when someone's generosity made a difference in your life?
3. Why do you think people sometimes wait for the "right time" to become generous?

GO DEEPER

1. Read ***2 Corinthians 8:1-4***. What stands out about the Macedonian believers' circumstances and their response? How could they experience joy while facing hardship?
2. Read ***2 Corinthians 8:5***. What did the Macedonians do *before* giving their resources? Why is surrendering ourselves to God the starting point for generosity?
3. In ***2 Corinthians 8:6-9***, Paul connects generosity with growing in faith, love, and knowledge. Why should growing in generosity be part of our spiritual growth?
4. Read ***2 Corinthians 9:6-8***. What does God say about the attitude behind our giving? How does His grace help us trust Him as we give?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. The message reminds us that **"A generous life begins with a surrendered heart."** Is there an area of your finances or resources that you've struggled to surrender to God?
2. What tends to hold you back from generosity: fear of not having enough, waiting for better circumstances, wanting control, or something else?
3. How does remembering what Jesus has generously given us change the way you think about giving to others?
4. To grow in generosity, what might your next step look like: regular giving, supporting a ministry, meeting someone's need, or simply inviting God into your financial decisions?

PRACTICE IT NOW

- Take a moment to reflect on ***2 Corinthians 8:9*** and the grace Jesus has shown us. Ask the Lord, "Father, is there an area of my life where You're inviting me to grow in generosity?"
- Then pray: "Lord, help me surrender what You've entrusted to me. Give me a joyful heart and show me how to partner with what You're doing."
- Invite anyone comfortable to share a next step. Pray for one another to trust God's provision and experience the joy of giving.

Generosity isn't just something God wants FROM us.
It's something He wants FOR us.