



Oct 18, 2026
Series: Week 7
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THE ESSENTIAL PRACTICE OF GENEROSITY

“Gratefully Giving our Time, Talents, and Treasure Towards Jesus’ Kingdom Work”

1.) Our Generosity Starts with Gratitude.

a.) Everything is the Lord’s, on Loan to Us.

- He created everything and holds it all together. (Gen. 1:1, Col. 1:15-17, Heb. 3:4, Rev. 4:11)
- He provides everything we need. (Phil 4:19, 2 Peter 1:2–4, Matt. 6:31–34, James 1:17)

Common Traps:

- We believe that we are the originators of our lives, driven to carve out our own fame and fortune.
 - We believe we can handle it ourselves and God doesn’t need to get involved.
- We fail to develop our trust in God because we’re doing pretty well without involving Him...until we’re not...

Consider:

- Practice noticing God’s creation and provision, and immediately expressing your awe, thankfulness, and appreciation.
- Take time at the end of the day, and at the end of the week to reflect back on where you saw God provide.

b.) Our Generosity Needs to Recognize that We Cannot Out-Give God. (1 Chron. 29:1-20)

Common Traps:

- We believe that our sacrifice is HUGE.
- We compare our generosity to others’ to either make ourselves feel good or to justify our laxness.
 - We come up with excuses as to why now isn’t the best time.

Consider:

- Spend some time this week thinking about your view of God and His generosity towards you. Do you ever make the mistake of taking credit for something you have been given? What has He given you in the past month? In humility, acknowledge that gift and then ask Him to use it for His kingdom

2.) Our Generosity Should Involve the Giving of Our Time, Talents, and Treasure, Following Jesus’ example.

a.) Giving Our Time... (Matt. 9, Luke 19:1-10, John 4, Matt. 19:13-14, Luke 10:25-37)

b.) Giving Our Talents... (Matt. 9, Luke 9:10-17)

c.) Giving Our Treasure... (Mark 12:41-44, Matt. 6:2-4, 19-21, Matt. 25:14-30)

Common Traps:

- We don’t believe we are too busy, or we don’t have enough resources, or giftings, to be generous.
 - We give to others, but with stipulations or requirements.
- We withhold our mercy and care, making excuses for why others don’t deserve it.

Consider:

Time:

-This week, go into some of your normal spots with an expectation of God giving you a person to stop and share your time and presence with. Be prepared to just listen, give a hug, offer your help or advice, but first, just show up.

-Make that phone call or send that text message that you have been meaning to but have pushed off...See what ministry opportunities can come from it.

Talents:

-Which examples of Jesus' generosity challenges you the most today? Are you being moved to join Him in the "work in His fields?" (Matt. 9:35-38)

-Who are other people in your life whose generosity has inspired you? If possible, take the time to express your appreciation to them.

Treasure:

-Is there something that you have in your possession that is of particular value to you? Consider asking yourself some hard questions about why you value it so much? Consider what it would look like if you were to trust that to God fully, to offer it as a sacrifice to Him and to let Him use it for His glory?

3). Our Generosity Should Be Viewed as an Eternal Investment in Jesus' Kingdom Work.

a.) Heavenly Treasures... (Matthew 6:19-24)

b.) We are not the Savior. We are His Ambassadors. (2 Cor. 5:18-21, Titus 3:3-8)

Common Traps:

- We self-direct our resources rather than allowing God to direct them.
- We make sure others are aware publicly when we are generous with our time or our wealth.
- We make a big deal of "what we will do someday" without actually following through.

Consider:

-Take some time to evaluate your investments. Consider that we have a finite set of resources in our lives at any point... How do we invest those resources?

-Think of the people that you are most drawn to be generous towards. Has your giving ever come with strings attached? Have you ever wanted to be the hero of the story, receiving the recognition and appreciation?

-If you are honest, how important is it that your generosity ultimately points others towards Jesus as their Savior?