

LIVE / *GENEROUSLY*

Leaving An Eternal Legacy
November 7, 2021

PREPARATION

STUDY

Look over the guideline for the group discussion and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you.

PRAY

Pray for the members of your group and their openness to God's word.

LANDING POINT

We have been blessed and want to model the heart of Jesus by being a blessing and giving to others.

GROUP DISCUSSION

CONFIDENTIALITY | What's said in the group stays in the group

NO CROSS-TALK | Be considerate of others as they share. Refrain from side conversations and texting during group time.

NO FIXING | We are not in the group to fix each other. Jesus does that part.

SHARING | Be sensitive to the amount of time you share. Don't talk too much or too little. Every person brings something valuable to the group.

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

REFLECT ON RECEIVING

We all know the blessing that being on the receiving end of a generous gift can bring. As you prepare to discuss what it looks like to live a life of generosity, take time to reflect as a group on a time that you have been blessed by someone who has lived with generosity.

Q: What is a time in your life that the generosity of someone else has directly blessed you?

Q: How did being on the receiving end of this gift make you feel?
What did you learn about God by experiencing this?



LIVE/ GENEROUSLY

Leaving An Eternal Legacy
November 7, 2021

DEEPER DIVE

THE JOY OF GIVING

We are filled with many emotions when we are on the receiving end of generosity, but what about when we are on the extending end of generosity? In Acts, Paul reminds us of what Jesus says regarding this.

Q: Have a volunteer read Acts 20:35

Q: The kingdom of God is upside down. We see this clearly in the paradigm Jesus explains in verse 35: it is more blessed to give than to receive. Have you seen this truth come to fruition in your life? If so, how?

GIVING AS A WAY OF LIFE

In Philippians 4:13-19, we read about how the generosity of the Philippians met Paul's needs as he was ministering to others. Their generosity was not a one-time deal; in Romans 15:26, we read that Paul continued to be supported by the Church. Two primary ways that we see giving modeled in scripture are through tithes and offerings. These giving patterns remind us that giving is not a task to be done but a lifestyle and heart to be cultivated.

Q: As you reflect on this morning, what do you remember learning about the difference in a tithe and an offering? Do you find one of these practices harder to take a step in?

Q: Through giving, we can often see spiritual growth take place in our life. Have you ever experienced this? If so, how?

Note: As a leader, be aware that there may be some in your group who have not yet taken a step towards giving or cultivating generosity as a way of life! Lead with grace and give room for transparency in your group.

GIVING PRODUCES JOY

In Philippians 4:13-19, we see through the example of the Philippians that giving produces joy. Take time as a group to read these verses, underlining any words or phrases used to describe the giving that happened.

Three ways that we experience joy when giving are:

1. We can find joy in knowing that we are pleasing God.
2. We can find joy in partnering with and blessing other people.
3. We can find joy in knowing that giving produces a reward.



LIVE / *GENEROUSLY*

Leaving An Eternal Legacy

November 7, 2021

Q: Look at Philippians 4:18; what words does Paul use to describe the gifts that were given to him?

What does this show us about how our offering moves the heart of God?

How can knowing this produce joy in us as we live a life of generosity?

Q: Ask someone in your group to read 2 Corinthians 9:10-15.

What do we see in these verses about how generosity can further the ministry of and be a blessing to others?

Are there any specific ministries or people you want to give towards to see them be blessed and the kingdom come?

Take some time processing in your group what this could look like both individually and collectively.

Q: In Philippians 4:17 and 4:19, we get a glimpse into the economy of God.

We can find joy in knowing that our giving gives us an eternal reward.

What do these verses show us about God's economy?

If you had full faith in the economy of God, what would change about how you live?

TAKING STEPS TOWARDS GENEROSITY

Jesus models extravagant generosity when he selflessly laid down his life. Now we have the opportunity to model the same heart of sacrificial giving and surrender. As your time as a group wraps together, reflect on what steps you want to take this week.

Q: As you reflect on where you currently are in your faith walk, what step towards giving do you want to take?
(i.e., giving your life to Jesus, surrendering an area you have been holding on to, giving a tithe or offering)

Spend time as a group praying that God would cultivate in each of you a heart to give and that you could experience His joy while doing it.

