

"Giving Is Good"

Do-Over Series

Pastor Mark

11.17.19

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be **generous on every occasion**, and through us your generosity will result in **thanksgiving to God**." 2 Corinthians 9:11

### Why don't we give more often?

- 1) We don't feel like we **HAVE ENOUGH**.
- 2) We've seen generosity be **ABUSED**.
- 3) We live with a **SCARCITY MINDSET** instead of an abundant mindset.

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. The one who blesses others is **abundantly blessed**." Proverbs 11:24-25

# 3 truths from scripture that will help us grow in generosity:

## 1) Trust God with the **TITHE**

- "<u>One-tenth</u> of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord and must be set apart to Him as holy." Leviticus 27:30
- "Bring the whole tithe, into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. 'Test me in this,' says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the flood gates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10

## 2) Plan our **GENEROSITY**

• "Generous people <u>plan to do what is generous</u>. They stand firm in their generosity." Isaiah 32:8

### 3) Start being **GENEROUS NOW**

• "I'm praying that you will <u>put it into action</u>, <u>the generosity that comes from your faith</u> as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ." Philemon 1:6

# **C3 Group Questions**

<u>Last Week's Next Steps:</u> Did you gather at C3 on Sunday to express your faith? Did you build your faith this week through consistent time in prayer & God's Word? If so share what stood out to you in your time with God?

**Ice Breaker:** What's the best thing you've ever been given?

**Review:** What one thing stood out to you (either helpful, insightful or troubling) from the weekend's message?

#### **Group Discussion:**

What's the most meaningful thing you've ever given?

How do you think your life would look in 5 years if you increased your generosity now? And if you didn't?

Read Acts 20:35, & Proverbs 11:24-25. Why do you think we still struggle to be generous?

When do you find yourself living in a scarcity mindset? When do you act more from an abundance mindset?

Have you ever had someone bless you with something totally unexpected, yet totally needed? Can you share?

Do you have any stories of how giving to God or someone else led to a breakthrough in your life?

What would being generous now look like for you?

How can this group pray for you this week? Who in this group can you pray for this week?

This Week's Next Steps: ("Do not merely listen to the word.....Do what it says." James 1:22)

Mark encouraged us to tithe, plan our generosity, & start being generous now. What are your next steps?

To test God in tithing, like He said we could in Malachi 3:10, take our "90 Day Tithe Challenge" here: https://www.c3tricities.com/give/challenge/