

Selfless

Extravagant In Giving (Week 3)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

Extravagant generosity is a hallmark of self(less) faith.

Key Scriptures

All day long the lazy and selfish craves and craves, but the righteous gives and does not hold back. Proverbs 21:26

Jesus called his disciples over and said, "The truth is that this poor widow gave more to the collection than all the others put together. All the others gave what they'll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn't afford—she gave her all." Mark 12:43-44

... You eat, but do not have enough: You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes. Haggai 1:6

All these blessings will com on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God ... Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed. Deuteronomy 28:2, 5

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. ..." Luke 6:38

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing. ... Proverbs 3:9-10

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 floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. Malachi 3:10

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33

Three attitudes about generosity:

1. The Bag: There is never enough.
2. The Basket: There is enough.
3. The Barn: There is way more than enough.

Start talking.

- Rank how generous you are on a scale of 1-10. Why that number?
- How do our views about generosity impact how we view our finances?

Start thinking.

- Read Proverbs 21:26. Why is "craving" so often an expression of selfishness?
- Read Mark 12:43-44. Is Jesus saying we should give all our money to the church? What is the difference between the woman and the others that gave?
- Read Haggai 1:6. How does a "bag" mentality end up controlling us?
- Read Deuteronomy 28:2, 5. What blessing(s) will come by trusting God with our finances? How might a "basket" approach end up limiting us?
- Read Proverbs 3:9-10 and Malachi 3:10. What does it look like to "honor the Lord with your wealth"? Why does God invite us to test him in this?
- Read Matthew 6:33. What is our greatest priority?

Start sharing.

- Which of the three attitudes were modeled for you growing up?
- Where do you tend to find yourself today?
- When is the last time you gave away so much it scared you? What happened next?
- What would it take to move toward the Barn mindset?

Start doing.

- Commit to sign up for the Financial Peace University course.
 - Visit our "Registrations" page on harborchurch.life or follow the link to sign up. <https://bit.ly/2unF2nL>
- Pray and ask God to stretch you in your tithes and giving.
- If you have not developed the discipline of giving, begin this week with an amount you will commit to.

Closing prayer.

Lord I confess I am often tied to my "stuff" and money in an unhealthy way. I have often held my finances with a closed fist and have at times been unwilling to release them to you. Please God change my mind and heart about this. Help me take disciplined steps toward generosity and financial freedom. Give me the courage to daily trust you with all that I have.