

Give Freely, Live Fully | Week 6

Introduction

Welcome to groups! Small Group is one of the ways we train to follow Jesus; stick with it!

Jesus is generous. His life was marked with radical generosity and this was the mark of the early church. There is no such thing as a stingy Jesus follower. One of the most important practices in following Jesus and training in his way of life is regular giving. Tithing is the base for many people moving their faith beyond mental ascent to real practice.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

Conversation Starters (10 minutes)

1. Can you think of a time that you gave to a cause or to a person and felt really good about it? Share your experience with the group.
2. What is the first piece of financial advice you remember receiving? Has it helped you?

Sermon Notes Review (10 minutes)

What caught your attention, challenged, or impacted you from this weekend's message?

[Watch the Video](#) (10 minutes)

Group Discussion (25 minutes)

1. Why do you think money is such a sensitive topic for people?
2. Read [Matthew 22:34-37](#).
 - a. What place does God want in our lives?
 - b. What things in your life tend to compete with God for your heart, soul, and mind?
3. Read [Luke 12:22-34](#).
 - a. Which verse from this passage resonates with you the most? Why?
 - b. Do you ever resist giving because you are afraid of what you will miss out on?
4. Read [Deuteronomy 8:17-18](#).
 - a. Share about a time when you wrestled with giving because you felt you had worked hard for what you had. What thoughts and feelings came up for you?

- b. How does the idea of God's provision for your abilities change that outlook for you?
5. Read [2 Corinthians 9:6-8](#)
 - a. What stands out to you in this passage?
 - b. Do you ever doubt God's ability to "bless you abundantly?"
 - c. Does giving cheerfully come easy to you, or is it hard for you?
6. When it comes to providing for your needs, where are all the places you trust God (job, health, bank accounts, etc.)?
 - a. What are the results?
 - b. What would it look like for you to courageously trust Him with your finances?

Prayer (5 minutes)

Take some time in silence to pray about what God would urge you to give, and then come together and pray for God to lead each of you in that in the days to come.

Announcements (5 minutes)

- If giving is your next step of obedience in following Jesus, we invite you to join the [90-day tithe challenge](#). You can go to [give.sv.cc](#) to learn more.
- Our baptism weekend is February 22/23 and it is a great opportunity to show everyone you follow Jesus. Baptism is an outward expression of the inward change that occurs when we say YES to Jesus. If you've said YES to Jesus but haven't yet been baptized, it will be a wonderful opportunity for you to celebrate with your group members at our baptism weekend. To register go to [baptism.sv.cc](#).