

Thrive

Success that Matters

Title: **BE GENEROUS**

Date: NOVEMBER 26, 2023

Leader's Notes:

1. Start and end the life group on time.
2. Facilitate discussions with your group and **give all attendees opportunities to share their thoughts**. Encourage participation.

Life Group Discussion Proper

WORSHIP: (15 mins)

Option 1: In person - Home gatherings

Suggestions: Assign someone to lead worship or play two praise & worship songs from You Tube.

Option 2: In person gatherings at a public place (at the park, school campus or café) or Online home gathering (via Zoom or other online meeting platform)

Suggestions: Ask three to four people to share testimonies of answered prayers or ask the question: Ask the group, "What are you thankful to God about this past week?"

Intro: Ask the group.

Q: What do you mean by the word "Generous"?

Generous— *readiness or liberality (abundant or ample) in giving; unselfish; freedom from meanness or smallness of mind or character.* Generosity extends beyond wealth or money; it reflects an attitude of kindness, goodness, and a genuine desire to help others.

Q: Do you know someone generous (Family member, friend, co-worker, etc.)?

Q: Why should we be generous? Give everyone an opportunity to answer.

Ans. Because God is the ultimate example of generosity and He invites us to imitate Him and share His blessings with others.

WELCOME:(15 mins): IWC - Introduce yourself. Welcome guests/first-time visitors. Cheerfully call someone to do the same.

Ice-breaker: Ask the group and give time for participation.

> *Is there anyone who would like to share a verse you have memorized this past week?*

> *Is there anyone who would like to share something you received from your daily devotions this past week?*

WORD (30– 45 mins)

HOW DO WE BECOME GENEROUS LIKE OUR GOD? (based on God's GENEROSITY)

1. BE GENEROUS LIKE OUR HEAVENLY FATHER - Read John3:16

Q: What has been the most generous gesture done to you by someone?

Q: What has been the most generous gesture you have done for someone?

God's generosity is the highest kind of generosity. He loved and gave His only Son Jesus, to die for His enemies. His love was demonstrated, displayed or proven by giving His Son Jesus to die for sinners.

Read: Romans 5:8

"We can give without loving but we can not love without giving." - Victor Hugo, Les Misérables

We're commanded to follow and imitate God's love and generosity as our guiding example.

Jesus talked about generosity. **Read Matthew 5:44-48.**

Our duty is to mirror and demonstrate God's presence to those nearby. Without a reputation for kindness and generosity, we cannot genuinely profess to have God's love within us. True generosity should come from OUR faith in God, not based on our upbringing or culture. **GOD IS OUR MODEL OF GENEROSITY!** His generous nature sets the best example for us to follow, leading to actions that bring glory to God and benefit everyone involved. **Please read Philemon 1:6-7 NLT**

Continuation:

2. BE GENEROUS AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD IN CHRIST'S NAME –

When God gave His Son as a sacrifice on the cross, He expected to harvest many sons and daughters into His family. His gift in the person of Jesus Christ was intended to impact many lives both on earth and in eternity. **Read Hebrews 2:9-10 NKJV**

When we follow God's example of love and the generosity that flows out of it, our world will be transformed. **Read Acts 2:42-47 NLT**

Q: How do you think being generous can impact others for God?

3. BE GENEROUS AND ENJOY GOD'S REPLENISHMENT –

Replenish – means to *“refill”, restore, re-stock, reload, recharge.”*

Sowing and Reaping is a Universal Principle established by God in life. Plant an apple seed and it yields an apple tree and potentially an orchard. Kindness sown in human relationships brings forth kindness from many. What we sow, we inevitably reap—and the truth remains, our harvest often exceeds our initial investment. **Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11a NLT**

A person who embodies godly traits, who displays generosity and reflects the image of God is never motivated by greed. They willingly share the resources they've received from God and eagerly look forward to more abundance to continue their acts of giving.

Once more, generosity encompasses all that we've been given by God. Having received mercy and grace, it's our duty to extend the same to others. What we offer will always result in more in return, enabling us to be even more generous.

Read: Luke 6:37-38

Q: Are you generous? What do you think made you a generous person?

Q: Is there someone in your life who influenced you to become one?

Conclusion:

God offers us the best purpose for our lives. He desires that all His children will be involved in His rescue mission. Out of our experience of God's love in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ, He calls us to share His love, forgiveness and kindness so that others may have the opportunity to know Him through us and be added to His amazing family. This is the truly successful life! This is the success that matters today and will still matter after 100 billion years!

Some practical tips to become generous like our God:

1. Study what the Bible says about GENEROSITY & GIVING.
2. Stop complaining about the many needs in our lives but rather think of others who are having a more difficult time than you.
3. Have an attitude of Gratitude. Gratitude is the foundation of generosity.
4. Start thinking about the needs of people around you.
5. Rejoice and celebrate the victories and special moments of other people.
6. Make generosity a part of our everyday life!
7. Be faithful in giving our Tithes to the Lord.
8. Pray for legit organizations and charities you can support.

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST TAKE-AWAY FROM THE LESSON?

Tell your group to partner with someone and ask this question to their partner. What impacted you the most from this lesson?

WORK: The Challenge & Closing prayer (15 mins.)

1. Memorize a verse from your devotions this week and be prepared to share it on our next gathering.
2. Please take time in your smaller groups to pray for one another. If there are specific needs, take time to lift them up to God in prayer as well. Ask each other, *“what can I pray for you?”*

Leader's Notes:

1. Please remind your group of your next gathering and ask them to invite a friend.
2. Please encourage the group to remember to pray for one another during the week.
3. Assign someone to share from his/her devotion to the group next week. (min. of 5mins.)