

Heartstrings
Week 6: No Strings Attached

Introduction

1. Warm Welcome

- Pastor Craig greets regular attendees and guests warmly.
- Highlights the importance of being part of a community of Jesus followers.

2. Sermon Theme

- "No strings attached" applies to both joining the Tab community and living a lifestyle of generosity.
 - Generosity brings freedom and opens us to God's blessings.
-

Main Message: The Freedom of Generosity

1. Generosity: Something God Wants for Us, Not From Us

- Generosity is an act of faith that opens our lives to God's blessings.
- Scarcity mindset vs. abundance mindset.

2. Biblical Context: 2 Corinthians 9

- Background on the Roman Empire's economic struggles in the 50s A.D.
- Corinthian church's pledge to support the Jerusalem church during its time of need.

3. Paul's Instructions to the Corinthians

- **Encouragement to Fulfill the Pledge**
 - Paul sends a delegation to ensure readiness and avoid awkwardness.
 - **Generosity Is Intentional**
 - Plan and arrange generosity in advance.
 - Giving as an act of worship, not compulsion or obligation.
-

Principles of Generosity

1. Generosity as an Intentional Act of Worship

- Response to God's past provision in faith for His future provision.
- Plan generosity as "Bill #1" before other expenses.

2. The Correlation Between Scattering and Gathering

- What we sow determines what we reap (2 Corinthians 9:6).
- Generosity opens us to God's wisdom and blessings, both financial and spiritual.

3. God Loves a Cheerful Giver

- God values the heart of the giver, not the size of the gift.
- Cheerful giving leads to joy and deeper trust in God.

4. Generosity Keeps Us Connected to the Source

- Money is a resource; God is the Source.
- Gratitude keeps us grounded and connected to God.

5. Generosity as a Highway to Amazing Destinations

- Worship: Generosity leads to thanksgiving and glorifying God.
 - Fellowship: Sharing resources builds bonds and strengthens community.
 - Mission Awareness: Generosity deepens our connection to God's work.
-

Practical Takeaways

1. Summary of Principles

- Scattering and gathering are correlated.
- God focuses on the giver, not the gift.
- Generosity reminds us of our connection to God.
- Generosity leads to worship, thanksgiving, and fellowship.

2. Call to Action

- Make a plan to give intentionally and sacrificially.
 - Trust God's provision and step into the blessings of generosity.
-

Closing Prayer

- A heartfelt prayer of commitment to a generous, faith-filled lifestyle with no strings attached.
-