



Key References:

Acts 4:32–35 (ESV) – Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.³³ And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold³⁵ and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Acts 5:4 (ESV) – While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.”

2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV) – Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Genesis 14:20 (ESV) – and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Deuteronomy 8:18a (ESV) – You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth,

Proverbs 3:9 (ESV) – Honour the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

Malachi 3:10 (ESV) – Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Paul opened by talking about the nature of God and creation. **How do these display that God is a God of generosity?**

1 – GENEROSITY IN THE EARLY CHURCH

Read Acts 4:32–37. **Why was generosity exploding along with the gospel? How did their extravagant generosity show the excitement and power through which the gospel was spreading?**

Read Acts 5:1–5. **Studying what Peter said in v4, what was wrong with the way Ananias was giving?**

2 – STEWARDS, NOT OWNERS

On Sunday we learned that we are stewards, not owners. Finances are part of our consecration, and even our ability to produce wealth is from God. **How does stewardship vs ownership change our perspective on what we own, and what God calls us to give? Does this make it easier to trust God with our finances and resources?**

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–8. **Why is it important to give honestly and with a generous heart, rather than compulsively? Has God ever called you to a level of generosity that stretched you in your faith? What was the result?**

3 – TITHING OR GENEROSITY

On Sunday Paul pointed out that “tithing is not generosity”. **What’s the difference between the biblical concepts of tithing and generosity?**

Read Matthew 23:23. **Can you summarise Jesus’ teaching on tithing? Why should we still consider tithing, even though not under the law?**

Read Matthew 6:19–21. **Why is money so good at showing where our faith and affections truly lay?**

4 – THE POWER OF GENEROSITY

Do you have any testimonies of where you’ve seen generosity and the kingdom go hand-in-hand with power?

What physical steps can you take to step into God’s call to be a joy-filled and generous giver?