

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

PRAYER & FASTING 03 – GENEROSITY – 1/18/2026

COMMUNION

- At some point during your gathering, take communion together.
- Read and meditate on 2 Corinthians 8:9, reflecting on how Jesus' self-giving love becomes the pattern for our generosity.
- Spend a few quiet moments thanking Jesus that He did not cling to His riches, but gave Himself for us—and ask Him to reshape what you love and trust.

REVIEW

- Money is often a cultural taboo, but Jesus had no taboo—He spoke openly because money powerfully shapes the heart.
- Paul's posture in Philippians 4 models a healthy perspective on generosity: he's grateful, but content—and he cares more about the fruit in the giver than the gift itself.
- Jesus assumes generosity (“when you give, not if you give”)
- Jesus encourages us to practice generosity until it is who we are and we no longer even notice we do it (“don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing”).
- Jesus said that what we do with our money actually shapes our hearts (“where your treasure is, there your heart will be”).
- In the book “The Paradox of Generosity” the authors discovered that giving doesn't shrink life; it enlarges it – echoing what Jesus already knew and taught
- Wealth isn't the problem; wealth without generosity is. You can't take your money with you, but generosity forms you now and prepares you for the life to come.
- Generosity is about more than money, but it is not less than money.

DISCUSSION

1. What stood out to you most from this week's teaching—an image, story, or Scripture?
2. **Read Matthew 6:19–21.** Why do you think Jesus says treasure shapes the heart (not the other way around)? Where do you see that in your own life?
3. God doesn't need our money, but He deeply cares what money is doing to our hearts. What temptations do you most feel around money (control, status, fear, comfort)?
4. What does “cheerful giving, not under compulsion” look like practically (2 Cor. 9:7)?
5. What is one “next step” you could take in your practice of generosity? (start giving, increase consistency, simplify spending, make a budget, pay down debt, be more Spirit led?)

PRAYER

Spend time praying for one another: to be freed from fear and self-protection, to grow in contentment and trust, and to become people whose hearts are formed by Jesus through simple, joyful acts of generosity (with money, time, attention, and words).