



LEGACY

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1** The Surprising Path to Joyful Moments
- 4** Generosity Fuels Kingdom Work
- 7** A Legacy That Lasts

TALK IT OVER

THE SURPRISING PATH TO JOYFUL MOMENTS

ICEBREAKER

What's one of the most generous things someone has ever done for you? (Examples: someone paid your rent when you were struggling, lent you a car when yours broke down, brought food when a family member was sick, etc.)

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever felt like joy is just out of reach, even when you're doing everything "right"? In this series, we will explore how **true joy** isn't found in chasing happiness, but in living with purpose, obedience, and generosity. Looking to the early Church as our example, we'll discover how living open-handed not only meets real needs, but also draws people to Jesus.

READ |

"And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need."
— Acts 2:44-45 (NLT)

The early believers were devoted to learning, fellowship, prayer, and generosity. They didn't wait for someone else to meet the need—they *were the answer* to prayer. Through their giving, they fulfilled God's command to love one another as He loved them. When we embrace this, we shift from being consumers to becoming givers.

Have you ever answered God's call to be generous? What happened as a result?

(Examples: buying groceries for a struggling family, sponsoring a child in poverty, etc.)

READ |

"But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife's consent, he kept the rest."
— Acts 5:1-2 (NLT)

Ananias and Sapphira gave money to the church, but lied about giving the full amount. They wanted to *look* more spiritual than they really were. When Peter called them out on their sin, he said it wasn't the fact that they held back money, but pretending they gave it all. God wasn't demanding everything, but He does value honesty over appearance. God wants full surrender, not a show.

Without mentioning names, have you ever observed someone doing something good for the wrong reason? Maybe even yourself? (Examples: volunteering to impress others, giving but secretly wanting praise and thanks, etc.)

READ |

"Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically."

— *Romans 12:11 (NLT)*

God calls us out of halfhearted faith into wholehearted devotion. God asks us to be *enthusiastic*—on fire! Passionate, unusual, generous faith moves people. Ask yourself: *"Am I giving God my leftovers or my best?"* When we fully surrender all we own to God and invest in His Kingdom, it outlives us and blesses generations to come.

What kind of Kingdom legacy do you want to leave? (Example: raising generous kids, funding missions, mentoring others, etc.)

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

- Make a commitment to give sacrificially this week. Ask God if there is a person or cause He wants you to invest in. You will have an opportunity to give to over 20+ worthy causes in our upcoming Kingdom Builder's Offering!

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father, thank You for being so generous with us. Stir our hearts to live with open hands and honest motives. Help us not to settle for lukewarm faith, but to burn with purpose and generosity. Show us the needs around us this week and give us the courage to meet them, and leave a legacy that points to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

MAKE TIME TO BE IN GOD'S WORD

Doing your daily devotions is an excellent way to record, process, and share what God is teaching you on a personal level. One helpful method is using the "S.O.A.P." approach to engage with each scripture:

S - Scripture

O - Observation

A - Application

P - Prayer

DAILY DEVOTION SCRIPTURES

Day 1: "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
— **2 Corinthians 9:6–7 (NIV)**

Day 2: "Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."
— **Proverbs 11:24–25 (NLT)**

Day 3: "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much..."
— **Luke 16:10 (NIV)**

Day 4: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."
— **Hebrews 13:16 (ESV)**

Day 5: "If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness..."
— **Isaiah 58:10 (NIV)**

TALK IT OVER

GENEROSITY FUELS KINGDOM WORK

ICEBREAKER

What's a situation in your life that looked "unlikely" but turned out better than expected? (Examples: a tough job interview that led to a great opportunity, a broken relationship that got restored, etc.)

INTRODUCTION

Corinth was wealthy, wild, and spiritually resistant. Not the kind of place you'd expect a church to thrive. Yet God sent Paul *there*, because He sees potential where we often see a lost cause. We tend to hold back generosity or effort when something looks "too far gone," but God is never limited by appearances. He moves in unexpected places and through unlikely people.

READ |

"Then Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila... with his wife, Priscilla... Paul lived and worked with them, for they were tentmakers just as he was."
— Acts 18:1–3 (NLT)

Paul didn't do ministry alone. He worked and lived with Aquila and Priscilla, fellow tentmakers and believers. Their hospitality and partnership advanced God's Kingdom. Generosity isn't just about giving money—you can also share your time, skills, encouragement, or even your home, like Aquila and Priscilla did.

Where might God be nudging you to step out in support of someone else, or to expand your own ministry? (Examples: helping to host a Small Group, financially supporting missionaries, volunteering at church or in your community, etc.)

READ |

In Acts 18, the Lord told Paul, 'Don't be afraid! Speak out! Don't be silent! For I am with you, and no one will attack and harm you...' God provided Paul with the courage and motivation to keep fighting the good fight for God's Kingdom. Though opposition was strong and the results weren't always immediate, Paul trusted that God was still working behind the scenes, so he didn't give up. He kept giving his time, talents and resources to support the church, and later saw how God used his consistency to bless Corinth—and the world.

What keeps you going when you feel like giving up? (Examples: encouragement from a friend, seeing others being blessed by your actions, etc.)

READ |

"Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in His kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity." — 2 Corinthians 8:1–2 (NLT)

Years later, this same Corinthian church became known for generous giving to help other believers. A place once known for immorality became a model of generosity. God transforms entire communities by transforming the hearts of individuals who are willing to listen and obey.

What is one of your favorite ways our church comes together to make a difference in our community? What are some areas you'd like to partner with our church in?

(Examples: helping families in crisis, supporting faith-based organizations that do meaningful work in your neighborhood, etc.)

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

- Through our Kingdom Builders Offering, we help our community to heal by providing support to victims of domestic violence, addiction recovery, children rescued from human trafficking, and so much more. This week, commit to **pray for** these ministries and the impact they will make for those in need.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father God, thank You that You don't wait for perfect conditions to move. You call ordinary people to partner in extraordinary work. Stir our hearts to be generous—not just with money, but with our time, homes, and encouragement. May our lives leave a legacy that multiplies long after we're gone. In Jesus' name, amen.

DAILY DEVOTION SCRIPTURES

Day 1: “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”
— **Galatians 6:9 (NIV)**

Day 2: “I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.”
— **1 Corinthians 3:6–7 (NIV)**

Day 3: “I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”
— **Philippians 1:3-5 (NIV)**

Day 4: “Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they produced a crop...”
— **Matthew 13:8 (NLT)**

Day 5: “Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.”
— **Proverbs 3:27 (NIV)**

ICEBREAKER

If someone described your life in one word, what word would you *want* it to be? (Examples: “Faithful,” “Generous,” “Joyful,” “Bold,” etc.)

INTRODUCTION

Some people leave behind a will. Others leave a legacy. But Legacy isn’t just about money, but about impact. Matthew 6:19-21 says, “Store your treasures in heaven... Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.” Generosity is an eternal investment. Earthly wealth fades, but Kingdom investments never lose value. Imagine investing in a stock that never crashes and always compounds. That’s what giving to God’s Kingdom does.

READ |

“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity...” — Ephesians 5:15-16 (NIV)

When Jesus said, “*Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,*” He didn’t say not to treasure anything, but to treasure what lasts. Each day gives opportunities to sow into people, ministries, and Kingdom work. Instead of waiting to “feel ready” or “have more,” sometimes God wants us to take a step of faith, even when it seems illogical.

Have you ever felt nudged by God to give or help someone, even when it didn’t seem logical? What happened when you followed through? (Examples: buying someone a meal with money you budgeted for your own meal, volunteering your time during a busy season, etc.)

READ |

*“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... **Test me in this,**” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”* — Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

God never asks us to give what He hasn’t already supplied. He is Jehovah Jireh—our Provider. This is the only time in scripture where God instructs us to test Him. He promises that if we entrust our resources to Him for His Kingdom, He will be faithful to meet our needs. We can never outgive God.

What does our giving say about where we place our trust? (Example: it shows who we believe is in control—us or God)

READ I

“Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.”

— *Psalm 90:12 (NIV)*

We often live like time is unlimited, but once we see life through the lens of eternity, our everyday choices start to carry deeper meaning. And thankfully, you don't need to be wealthy to make an eternal impact. Some of the greatest kingdom investments come from simple, everyday acts of love. Whether it's giving, serving, or simply being present, God blesses those who live with eternity in mind.

What's one small way we can start to make an eternal impact? (Examples: sponsor a child, give anonymously, take the time to listen to someone who feels lonely, etc.)

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

- Choose **one earthly habit** you can shift toward eternal generosity this week. (Examples: Skip a luxury like a coffee run or streaming service, and use that money to give to others.)
- Pray and ask God about taking a step of faith in giving to the **Kingdom Builder's Offering** to support faith-based organizations in our community & around the world.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father God, please teach us to number our days and see with eternal eyes. Help us not to hold tightly to what fades, but to invest in what lasts forever. Use our time, our gifts, and our generosity to shape lives, change hearts, and glorify You. Please use us to build Your Kingdom, here on earth. In Jesus' name, amen.

DAILY DEVOTION SCRIPTURES

Day 1: “God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat... and He will increase your resources and produce a great harvest of generosity in you.”

— **2 Corinthians 9:10–11 (NLT)**

Day 2: “A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.”

— **Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)**

Day 3: “Sell your possessions and give to those in need... This will store up treasure for you in heaven!”

— **Luke 12:33–34 (NLT)**

Day 4: “Generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity.”

— **Isaiah 32:8 (NLT)**

Day 5: “Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds... In this way they will lay up treasure... for the coming age.”

— **1 Timothy 6:18–19 (NIV)**



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