



The Week of November 21, 2021
The Compassionate Life
Conversation Guide

This Week's Take-Aways

- **I am generous:** (Luke 6:38) I give freely of what God has given to me. I invest in the ministry of the church locally and globally. I seek to meet the needs of those around me, sharing what God has given me.
- **I show great compassion:** (Psalm 82:3-4) I actively show my caring for those who are vulnerable in real and tangible ways.
- **I engage in the missionary task wherever I am:** (Matthew 28:18-20) Through both my words and actions, I engage in gospel conversations with those around me. I take the gospel around the world by going, giving, praying and sending others

Intro Questions

- What is the most generous gift you've ever received? Given?
 - Who is the most generous person you know and why?
 - Is it better to give than receive?
- What is your favorite way to serve others?
 - How do the holidays open up avenues for serving others?
- Who was the first person to share the gospel with you?

Give Generously

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that was given to the churches of Macedonia: During a severe trial brought about by affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. I can testify that, according to their ability and even beyond their ability, of their own accord, they begged us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in the ministry to the saints, and not just as we had hoped. Instead, they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us by God's will.

- What was the motivation behind the Macedonians generosity?
- Did they give out of their surplus or was their gift a sacrifice for them?
- What can we learn about generosity from their example?

2 Corinthians 9:6-12

The point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart – not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work. As it is written:

*He distributed freely;
he gave to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.*

Now the one who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will also provide and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

- What are the characteristics of generous person?
- What do you think is meant by “cheerful giver”?
- How is thanksgiving to God a natural outcome of being generous?

Malachi 3:10

Bring the full tenth into the storehouse so that there may be food in my house. Test me in this way,” says the Lord of Armies. “See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure,

- Note: This is the only time that God tells people to test Him.
- When we give back to God, He promises to bless us. Is this blessing always financial?
- How have you seen God bless you for your faithfulness in being generous?