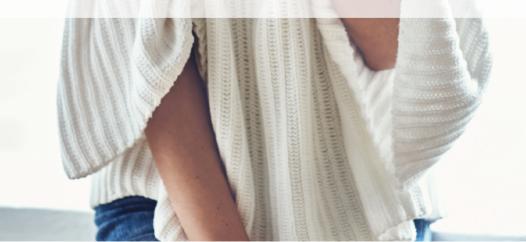


A REDEMPTIVE STEWARDSHIP STUDY / RESOURCE

Generosity The Key to Living a Significant Life



A REDEMPTIVE STEWARDSHIP STUDY / RESOURCE

Generosity

The Key to Living a Significant Life



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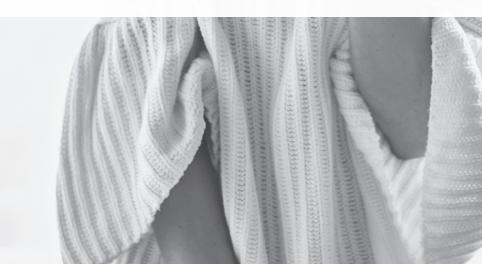
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Our Prayer for You

May God open your eyes to the fulfillment and contentment that is available to you as you seek to become more like Christ who constantly gave of Himself in love for others. May He speak to you through this resource to inspire and excite you to live a truly significant life by committing to generosity with all that you are and all that you have.



Introduction

Most of us have a desire buried deep inside of us to live a significant life. We spend our lives looking for ways to do something that really matters. We try to become significant through wealth accumulation, fame, athletic achievements, travel or endless other ways we think will make our lives matter.

But what if the search for significance is much simpler than we think? Let's look to scripture,

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. (Hebrews 13: 15-16)

God's Word is clear, the answer to our search for fulfillment and contentment is to become like Christ, which means we must love and give. Giving of ourselves is key to living the way God designed us.

This message was filmed live during a recent talk I gave in Vancouver, and my hope is that God will use it to help you:

- Discover the key to a life of true and lasting significance
- Explore biblical examples of people who got it right and some who got it wrong
- · Learn how to live generously in every area of your life
- Walk away inspired to live prepared for That Day when you will ultimately stand before the Lord.

You can go through this study by yourself or with a group. There is a listening guide for you to fill out as you watch the DVD, followed by some questions for personal reflection or to discuss with your family or small group.

Regardless of your approach to watching this message and answering the questions, I hope this teaching sparks a journey inside your heart to find the joy and freedom of generosity for yourself and those around you.

As always, we hope to support and encourage you on your journey. Please call us with any prayer requests at 1.800.722.1976 or visit us at crown.org for resources to help you on your journey.

God is faithful,

Church Brutey

Chuck Bentley
1 Corinthians 1:9

VIDEO GUIDE

To be God's steward involves all the components of how you make
decisions and spending decisions, and investment decisions
and
You use money If we can connect God's message and God's
truth to our, then we have a greater connection
with the Lord.
Acts 20:35
Paul said, "In everything I did I showed you that by this kind of hard work we
must help"
All of us are called to help the weak.
Throughout history has been the ones who've built the
schools, who've built the hospitals, who've started the humanitarian relief,
who've given aide, who've shown up when there's a disaster, who've shown up
when there's human rights violations.
Everything God created The sun gives, the moon gives, the stars give,
the flowers give, the animals give, the soil gives. Just plain old dirt gives.
NOTES

If we're not giver	s, we've missed our	by God. We've	e missed how he
designed us to fu	unction. We become lik	xe the	•
To be a giver is to	o think of yourself	focused, instead	d of
focused.			
ADVANTAGES (OF GENEROSITY		
A. Research show	ws people who are gene	erous report greater per	sonal
1. Harva	rd reports two things t	hat make people genuir	iely happy.
a. E	arned	that's a goal that	you set for your
I	ife and you get it done		
b. 0	Generosity		
2. Studie	s show the	has more	_ happiness than
the red	ceiver.		
B. It improves yo	our	·	
a. I	t reduces your	to become a giver.	
b. \	ou have a stronger sen	se of	
c. F	eople who are generou	ıs tend to avoid	·
C. God said he lo	oves aş	giver.	
a. (Givers are the economic	c of the chu	ırch.
b. 0	Givers are important to	the growth of	·
с. (God has placed givers in	n every sector of the	
d. (God's economy can't be	e stopped. The only way	it can be
	,	eeing yourself as a giver	
S	ignificance in life as wh	at you, not wh	nat you

D. Giving turns your life from	to	in God's eyes.
a. The only way your life becom	nes significant is by	becoming a
b. Significant means this, that y	our life is	, that it's
important and it matters.		
1 Kings 17:7		
The first step in becoming God's giver i	s to get over your _	·
The reason that people don't give is no	t because of	It's because
you're		
You have to get over your fear, because	giving is a sign of _	
·		
46 105		
1 Samuel 25		
Nabal means surly, rude,	_, foolish.	
Nabal lived out his name.		
Abigail was a She is a pi	cture of the	
The giver.		
7 1 10 10 1		
The widow and 2 mites		
The widow gave it		
NOTES		

Acts 11:27-30

The apostles got shipwrecked, beaten, jailed, they	they
lost their credibility, they were spit upon, they were mocked, the	hey were financial-
ly	
The natural, human tendency when we're and we	think we may
, is to	
They in the This began the moveme	ent of Christians
building the hospitals and the schools, and the relief agencies.	And building
·	
It changed, because they went against human r	nature.
You can, "," yourself out of any opportunity to	give.
You, "What if," yourself out of	
You will not give any than you're giving right now.	If you won't give
10% of one dollar, you won't give 10% of a million.	
helps you manage your finances in the proper v	vay. It breaks the
grip that buying stuff has on your life. It changes your	and your
Luke 16	
The rich man was significant in the eyes of with hi	s money Lazariis
was, nobody helped him.	3 money. Lazarus
Lazarus went from insignificant to	
President Teddy Roosevelt said, "There's never been a man in h	istory who lived
a life of, who	se name is worth
remembering."	

In this story the rich man has no name because he identified with his
·
God who the world called insignificant, to be significant.
The Pastor of the Tin City church teaches, "Your life will not matter, you will
come into this world, you're poor and you will die poor, and you will be forgot-
ten you become a giver. And when you become a giver your life
takes on to your neighbor, it takes on significance to your
family, it takes on significance to our church. And I'm asking you, no matter
how little it is, to faithfully give so that the glory of God will be
through you, the ones of the world."
Be to God. Don't be significant to the
When you become a giver the Bible says you'll be divided between the
and the
The goats were, the sheep were
A goat is , they butt you and try to get their way.
They do their own thing.
A sheep a shepherd. And the sheep, get sheared
time, after time, after time, and give it all away. They get stripped down to noth-
ing and a shepherd. And that wool comes back.
The transaction is, most people want God to trust them with, but the
real issue is, he wants you to trust him with a
NOTES

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Giving is a cure for your, giving	g is a sign you have real
in God, giving is a demonstration	of God's love made tangible to
your neighbors, and giving is what's	for you.
Giving. Doing the thing. Being God'	s giver. That makes you
·	
Become His	
God so loved you that he gave his very best, and	he did it

Questions for Discussion/Reflection

In his message Chuck shared that throughouthe primary source of humanitarian relief anyour church and community? Where have you hands and feet of Christ? Where do you see	d aid in times of crisis. Is this true of ou seen your church serving as the
As Christians, we are the body of Christ. We personally served as His hands and feet?	e are His church. How have you
Chuck gave 4 main benefits of generosity. It benefits in your own life? Which benefit is why?	
benefits in your own life? Which benefit is	
benefits in your own life? Which benefit is why?	
benefits in your own life? Which benefit is why? Greater personal happiness	
benefits in your own life? Which benefit is why? Greater personal happiness Improved physical health	
benefits in your own life? Which benefit is why? Greater personal happiness Improved physical health God loves a cheerful giver	
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benefits in your own life? Which benefit is why? Greater personal happiness Improved physical health God loves a cheerful giver	

There were several obstacles mentioned that people often have to overcome in order to fully embrace a generous life. What do you see as your greatest obstacle and why? It may be one of the ones mentioned (fear, arrogance, selfishness, and a lack of trust) or something else.
Of the biblical examples given, with whom do you most identify? Why? Who do you relate to the least and why?
The examples used were Elijah and the widow – 1 Kings 17
Nabal and Abigail – 1 Samuel 25
The Widow and her two mites – Mark 12
The Apostles who gave in the famine – Acts 11:27-30
The rich man and Lazarus – Luke 16:1-15
How do you personally "what if" yourself out of being generous?

Response As you reflect on the video and discussion questions, what stood out to you most in this message? What are the next steps God is asking you to take in response to this message?

Answer Key

page 5
giving
debt
every day
financial
decisions
the weak
the church

PAGE 6

gives

desian Dead Sea outwardly inwardly happiness achievement aiver lasting physical health stress purpose depression cheerful engine Christianity economy have give away

PAGE 7

insignificant significant giver meaningful fear greed afraid absolute trust arrogant giver bride of Christ all

PAGE 8

lost their jobs persecuted fearful lack hoard gave famine the church history What if faith more Generosity perspective priorities man insignificant Mr. Significant luxurv self-indulgence PAGE 9 possessions. redeemed until significance manifest weak significant the world sheep goats selfish generous stubborn own follows listen trust

PAGE 10 selfishness faith best right happy giver

a lot

little

first

Notes	



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