



# FOUNDATIONS

“ULTIMATE GENEROSITY”

July 28, 2024  Tom Lundeen

MYRC.CHURCH



## MESSAGE NOTES

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### Note **1 Timothy 1:15**

Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_ to rescue lost people.

### Note **Luke 19:10**

And Jesus calls every one of His followers to do what He did and still does \_\_\_\_\_: be outward-focused and reaching lost people.

Being outward-focused as individuals and a church is the most transforming and \_\_\_\_\_-giving thing we can do.

### Note **Matthew 6:21**

*A life story could be written from a checking account. It reflects your goals, \_\_\_\_\_, convictions, relationships, and even the use of your time. A person who has been a Christian for even a short time can fake prayer, Bible study... and going to church, but he can't fake what his bank account reveals. Maybe that is why so many of us are \_\_\_\_\_ about our personal finances. (Ron Blue)*

The fact is, the mission of Jesus cannot ever be understood fully and embraced completely without generosity at our \_\_\_\_\_.

Being generous happens:

## 1. When God's \_\_\_\_\_ Permeates My Heart

When \_\_\_\_\_ is evident in my life, generosity is always evident (note **2 Corinthians 8:1**).

- A. Grace-empowered giving overcomes \_\_\_\_\_ (note **2 Corinthians 8:2; Philippians 1:27-29; 1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2 Thessalonians 1:4**) - grace-empowered giving isn't impacted by Wall Street, culture wars, polls, elections, economic \_\_\_\_\_, etc.
- B. Grace-empowered giving is always \_\_\_\_\_ (note **2 Corinthians 8:3-4**) - to give was a privilege to enjoy, not a burden to \_\_\_\_\_. They gave \_\_\_\_\_ (note **2 Corinthians 8:3a**) \_\_\_\_\_ (note **2 Corinthians 8:10-15**)... \_\_\_\_\_-focused. (note **2 Corinthians 8:5**)  
*Consecration to God \_\_\_\_\_ contributions (King).*
- C. Grace-empowered giving is \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus followers (note **2 Corinthians 8:7; 1 Corinthians 1:4-7**).

Being generous and happily sacrificial also happens:

## 2. When Thankfulness \_\_\_\_\_ My Motivation

Generosity can't be commanded/\_\_\_\_\_.

It flows out of genuine \_\_\_\_\_ (note **2 Corinthians 8:8**).

And it's the mission of Jesus that provides the motivation to willingly, generously, and cheerfully give...it comes from the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (note **2 Corinthians 8:9**).

Note **Philippians 2:7-8**

Jesus became what we were (\_\_\_\_\_) so that we could become what He is (\_\_\_\_\_).

*If this love of Christ, so magnanimous in its motive and self-sacrificing in its execution, is an \_\_\_\_\_ force in the believer's heart, how unnecessary, the apostle implies, any command to practice "giving" ought to be. What, without love, might seem a cold moral \_\_\_\_\_ has been transformed by it into a joyous privilege. (Tasker)*

Everything we do for Jesus, including giving, will be all the more positive and meaningful when our motivation isn't some sort of \_\_\_\_\_ obligation or burdensome duty to perform...(note **2 Corinthians 9:11-12**).

## FOUNDATIONS MATTER:

- You and I are encouraged and challenged to \_\_\_\_\_ in the grace of giving (note **2 Corinthians 9:6-7**).
- Is giving a \_\_\_\_\_ privilege...
- ...or a burden we try to \_\_\_\_\_?
- Passionate, Spirit-filled Jesus followers are not offended, \_\_\_\_\_, or uncomfortable when encouraged and challenged to give generously to God's work.
- Note **Matthew 6:21**
- *People who give to help the Church start to love the Church. People who give to help people come to Christ start to \_\_\_\_\_ about people coming to Christ. People who give to God find their hearts and thoughts on God and godly things. (Strand)*
- Note **2 Corinthians 8:9**

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or hard copy).\***MYRC.LINK/CONNECT** or text **riverside** to **94000**



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# SG

Your group matters.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

*If everyone were required to wear a hat all the time, what kind of hat would you wear and why that style?*

1. Pastor Tom quoted Ron Blue as saying, “A life story could be written from a checking account. It reflects your goals, priorities, convictions, relationships, and even your use of time.” What priorities and convictions would your receipts, bank statements and credit card statements reveal?
2. Read [2 Corinthians 8:2-4](#). In this passage, the Apostle Paul describes the Macedonian believers as begging for the “privilege” of giving to help the persecuted church in Jerusalem. When was the last time you saw giving as a privilege to be craved and what motivated you to be so generous?
3. Pastor Tom said, “Grace-empowered giving is always voluntary,” rather than out of obligation or coercion. ([2 Corinthians 8:8-9](#)) What changes when you give because you want to, not because you have to? How could it make a difference for you in terms of your joy and generosity?
4. Pastor Tom declared that “Passionate, Spirit-filled, Jesus-followers are not offended, uptight, or uncomfortable when encouraged and challenged to give generously to God’s work.” ([2 Corinthians 9:6-7, 11-12](#)) So, what might it reveal in us if we are “offended, uptight, or uncomfortable” when challenged to give? Where do you think that knee-jerk reaction is coming from?
5. Read [Matthew 6:21](#). Pastor Tom quoted Strand when he said, “People who give to the Church start to love the Church. People who give to help people come to Christ start to care about people coming to Christ.” If, as the scripture says, our heart follows our treasure, what changes might you need to make to ensure that your heart is in line with God’s passions?

*Day One:* [John 19](#); [Psalm 87](#)

*Day Two:* [Exodus 37](#); [Proverbs 25](#)

*Day Three:* [Romans 9](#); [2 Samuel 7](#)

*Day Four:* [Philemon 1](#); [Jeremiah 21](#)

*Day Five:* [Job 25](#); [Acts 3](#)

## PERSONAL GUIDE

*This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner’s Bible Reading System.*



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- B. Grace-empowered giving is always voluntary (note **2 Corinthians 8:3-4**) - to give was a privilege to enjoy, not a burden to endure. They gave proportionately (note **2 Corinthians 8:3a**)...systematically (note **2 Corinthians 8:10-15**)...sacrificially...God-focused. (note **2 Corinthians 8:5**)  
*Consecration to God precedes contributions (King).*
- C. Grace-empowered giving is normal for Jesus followers (note **2 Corinthians 8:7; 1 Corinthians 1:4-7**).

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Jesus became what we were (poor) so that we could become what He is (rich).

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