



DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

Next weekend will be Labor Day (technically the Monday following next weekend). So, what exactly does Labor Day celebrate and why is it a holiday?

1. Pastor Kyle said, "There are very few things more contrary to being awake to grace than living with closed hands." What is it about the relationship between grace and generosity that makes this statement true?
2. Read **Luke 19:1-6, 8**. Have you ever felt as free and joyful in generosity as Zacchaeus? If so, what unleashed it? If not, what do you think inhibits you?
3. Read **Luke 19:5-7**. Notice the difference between Jesus' response to Zacchaeus and that of the crowd; one with grace and the other with condemnation. Imagine seeing someone who abused you, or betrayed you, or defamed you, or swindled you or did some other wretched thing to you receiving such great grace and attention from Jesus. Would your response be more like the crowd than like Jesus? If so, what would it take for you to demonstrate a friendly, generous grace toward that person?
4. How do you feel about Pastor Kyle's statement, "What's mine is God's?" How might that truth change your perspective about giving generously or even changing your spending habits?
5. Review the "5 Don'ts" from your notes: What's the Bare Minimum, Ashamed of How Little, Proud of How Much, Divorced from Discipleship, Detached from Mission. Which of these "Don'ts" is most challenging to you and what strategies will you use to change that – or if you don't know, who can you ask to help you?

PERSONAL GUIDE

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

Day One: John 20; Psalm 32

Day Two: Deuteronomy 29; Proverbs 27

Day Three: 1 Chronicles 10; Ezra 2

Day Four: Revelation 9; Daniel 11

Day Five: Song of Songs 4; Acts 14



WELCOME *to* RIVERSIDE CHURCH

Big Lake - Buffalo - Sauk Rapids

ONE CHURCH
MULTIPLE CAMPUSES
ONE FAMILY

Aug 30, 2026

Message Notes



"Alive to Generosity"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Aug 30, 2026

There are very few things more _____ to being awake to grace than living with _____.

Because of grace we are: Alive to **God**, Alive to **Mission**, Alive to **Power**, and Alive to **The Big 3** (Church, Groups, Serving)

BIG IDEA

Because of grace, I'm alive to _____.

Grace makes us alive to _____.

Money is a matter of _____. (**Matthew 6:21; 24**)

Zacchaeus' story is a story of _____ generosity.

Luke 19:1-9

Zacchaeus receives Jesus in faith...and what's the first thing to happen? _____ hands to _____ hands.

Generosity didn't _____ his salvation. Generosity was an _____ of his salvation.

2 Corinthians 9:7b

For Zacchaeus, joy in _____ = joy in _____.

- They can't be separated because real generosity is revealed in who Jesus is and what He's done for us.

Our world defines generosity differently than the Bible does.

The Bible looks at Jesus—who He was and What He accomplished on the cross—and calls that generosity. (**2 Corinthians 8:9**)

Broadly speaking, there are **3 ways we think about money**:

1. What's Mine is Mine.
2. What's Yours is Mine.
3. What's Mine is God's.

- Everything we have, including our money, is all from God to us. Our role is to _____.

Generosity isn't about your _____. It's about your _____.

Zacchaeus wasn't better at sinning than Jesus was at saving. Jesus sought him out because Zacchaeus needed to be found...and saved. (**Luke 19:10**)

5 Don'ts:

1. Don't ask, "What's the _____ I have to give this month?"
 - The far better question to ask, "How _____ can I give this month?" (**2 Corinthians 9:7a**)

If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them. (C.S. Lewis)

2. Don't feel _____ by how _____ the gift is.
 - God is not sizing up the gift. He just wants your _____. (**Mark 12:43-44**)
3. Don't feel _____ by how _____ your gift is.
 - Remember, it's not _____ money in the first place. It's from God for you to steward.
4. Don't divorce _____ from your life-long discipleship.
 - If our heart's greatest threat is how we relate to money, we need to keep it on our forefront when we're thinking about our spiritual health.
5. Don't _____ money from _____.
 - The invitation from Jesus to be a part of His redemptive _____ is an all-encompassing invitation.

Start walking in the way of _____ today.

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

App: Message Notes/Connect Card **Or:** MYRC.LINK/CONNECT



"Alive to Generosity"

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Because of grace we are: Alive to **God**, Alive to **Mission**, Alive to **Power**, and Alive to **The Big 3** (Church, Groups, Serving)

BIG IDEA

Because of grace, I'm alive to generosity.

Grace makes us alive to open-handedness.

Money is a matter of the heart. (**Matthew 6:21; 24**)

Zacchaeus' story is a story of transformative generosity. **Luke 19:1-9**

Zacchaeus receives Jesus in faith...and what's the first thing to happen? Closed hands to open hands.

Generosity didn't earn his salvation. Generosity was an expression of his salvation.

2 Corinthians 9:7b

For Zacchaeus, joy in Jesus = joy in generosity.

- They can't be separated because real generosity is revealed in who Jesus is and what He's done for us.

Our world defines generosity differently than the Bible does.

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5 Don'ts:

1. Don't ask, "What's the bare minimum I have to give this month?"
 - The far better question to ask, "How much can I give this month?" (**2 Corinthians 9:7a**)

If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them. (C.S. Lewis)

2. Don't feel ashamed by how little the gift is.
 - God is not sizing up the gift. He just wants your heart. (**Mark 12:43-44**)
3. Don't feel proud by how big your gift is.
 - Remember, it's not your money in the first place. It's from God for you to steward.
4. Don't divorce giving from your life-long discipleship.
 - If our heart's greatest threat is how we relate to money, we need to keep it on our forefront when we're thinking about our spiritual health.
5. Don't detach money from mission.
 - The invitation from Jesus to be a part of His redemptive mission is an all-encompassing invitation.

Start walking in the way of GENEROSITY today.

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

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