

## THE DECISION TO BE GENEROUS

*Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more...” (Luke 6:38 NLT)*

**INTRODUCTION:** *In this sixth week of our series, we will explore the importance of making the decision to be generous. Being generous not only benefits those who receive, but also transforms the giver and makes God’s heart happy. Based on Luke 6:38, we will discover how generosity can change our lives and the lives of those around us.*

### 1. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE GENEROUS? “A generous person will prosper...(Prov. 11:25 NIV)

- Generosity is more than an action; It is an attitude of the heart. The opposite of generosity is avarice, selfishness and greed.
- It is sharing our resources, time, and talents with those who need it, without expecting anything in return.
- It’s an act of selfless love and a tangible expression of our faith in action.
- It’s a reflection of the character of God, who is generous to us in many ways.

### 2. THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE GIVER. “..God loves a cheerful giver.(2 Cor. 9:7 NIV)

Generosity transforms the giver in several ways:

- **Frees us from selfishness.** Generosity frees us from selfishness and greed. By sharing what we have, we break the chains of materialism and develop a more open and compassionate heart.

- **Encourage gratitude.** Being generous makes us more aware of our blessings and helps us develop an attitude of gratitude. We appreciate what we have more when we are willing to share it with others.
- **Strengthens our faith.** Every act of generosity is a step of faith, trusting that God will provide for our needs. This process strengthens our faith and helps us depend more on God.

### 3. WE MAKE GOD’S HEART HAPPY.

*“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” (Heb. 13:16 NIV)*

- **We reflect His character.** “
- *“Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” (Ephessians. 5:1-2 NIV)* When we are generous, we are reflecting the character of God, who is generous to us. By acting generously, we show the world who God is and what His loving and giving nature is like.
- **Produce acciones de gracias a Dios.** *“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.” (2 Cor. 9:12 NIV)* Our generosity contributes to God’s work in the world. It helps meet the needs of others and allows more people to know His love and provision, resulting in thanksgiving and praise to Him.
- **It 's an act of worship.** *“They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God....” Phillipians.*

4:18 NIV) Generosity is a form of worship of God. When we give with a joyful heart, our offerings are like a fragrant sacrifice that pleases God. It's an expression of our gratitude and recognition of His goodness in our lives.

#### 4. BENEFITS OF BEING GENEROUS.

*"Give, and you will receive...." (Luke 6:38 NLT)*

- **Abundant blessings:** (*Prov. 11:25 NIV*) Generosity opens the door to God's blessings.
- **Multiplicación de recursos:** (*2 Cor. 9:10 NIV*) God doesn't just provide for our needs, but also multiplies our resources so that we can be even more generous.
- **Rewards from heaven.** *Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. (Matthew. 6:20 NIV)* Generosity has an eternal dimension. When we give, we are storing up treasures in heaven, where the rewards are eternal and cannot be destroyed. This perspective motivates us to live a life of generosity knowing that we are investing in something lasting and valuable in the eyes of God.

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- How can I be more generous with my time, resources and talents?

- In what areas of my life do I need to trust more in God's provision in order to give freely?
- How have I seen generosity transform my life and the lives of others?

#### PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Practice generosity with your family, whether by giving time, sharing resources, or showing acts of love and service.
- Start tithing and offering regularly in your church to support its operations and missions.
- Serve your gifts, talents, and time in a ministry or open your CG.
- Ask God who you can bless with your resources.

#### CONCLUSION:

*Make the decision to be generous, it will not only transform your life, but it will also deeply impact others and make God's heart happy. Through our generosity, we reflect the love of Christ, strengthen our faith, and build an eternal legacy of kindness and love. Let generosity be a hallmark of your life, trusting in God's promises and experiencing the blessings that come from giving with a sincere heart.*

**SALVATION PRAYER:** *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so that you may be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.*