

IMAGINE...

Small Group Questions

Part 5: Generosity

© 2016 Seacoast Church. All Rights Reserved.

Read

Luke 6:38; Proverbs 11:25; 2 Corinthians 1:3–4; John 15:16; Romans 12:4 –6; 1 Kings 17:7 –16; and Malachi 3:10

Reflect

Becoming generous is not instantaneous for most of us. We are all on a journey of generosity. Each of us has a unique story and challenges to overcome. In 1 Kings 17, a desperate woman obeys when instructed to use the last of her flour to make bread for Elijah rather than save it for herself and her son. Because of her obedience and willingness, she receives great blessing and does not want for food again. When we offer our time, talents, and treasure to God, he uses us in ways that bless others as well as ourselves. We just need to step out in obedience.

Our generosity affects future generations. Much of what we have available to us today is because of someone else's past generosity.

Pastor Josh Walters reminds us of three of God's promises for our journey of generosity:

1. The promise of refreshment.
 - a. When I give my time to refresh others, God will refresh me.
 - b. What refreshes your soul?
 - c. In what areas do you most need encouragement?
 - i. Are you willing to ask for help and support?
 - d. How will you pass on encouragement you have received?
 - e. Have you identified ways to refresh those closest to you? Are you making a conscious effort to do it?
2. The promise of purpose.
 - a. When I use my talents in the local church, I will experience God's purpose for my life.
 - b. How are you using your gifts to further God's kingdom?
 - c. Where have you thought of volunteering or serving, but put it off for some reason?
 - i. Might now be the time to step forward?
 - d. What might be keeping you from stepping out and using your gifts?
 - e. Do you consider yourself to truly be the hands and feet of Jesus?
 - f. Do you think we are God's stewards of our talents as much as our treasure?
 - i. What is your next step of obedience?
3. The promise of provision.
 - a. When I give of my treasure in faith, God will generously provide for me.
 - b. Have there been times when you've been fooled into thinking what you have, you've earned?
 - i. In those times, how has God shown that you are his steward?
 - ii. How have you witnessed God's provision for you or someone you know?
 - c. Identify your weaker areas. Will you ask God to change your heart?

Are you putting yourself in a position of faith? How is God asking you to step out in faith and become more generous?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?