

Summary:

Generosity is something God wants for you, not from you.

Generosity is powerful. It releases the transformational power in your life. There is something magnetic about generosity.



Purpose of this series: We want you to discover The Secret to the transformational power of generosity which leads to the abundant life!

“Contagious Generosity”

I. Benefits of Lifestyle Generosity

1. It reflects the character of God.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave...”

Romans 8:29 “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son,...”

1 John 3:1 NIV “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!...”

2. It protects and frees us from financial enslavement.

Matthew 6:24 NIV “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

3. Victory over material things.

I Timothy 6:17-19 LB “Tell those who are rich not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which will soon be gone, but their pride and trust should be in the living God who always richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well..”

Each time we give it breaks the materialism syndrome of “I’ve got to have more”.

4. Helps us focus on eternal not temporal things.

Matthew 6:19-21 LB “Don’t store up treasures here on earth where they can erode away or may be stolen. Store them in heaven where they will never lose their value and are safe from thieves. If your profits are in heaven, your heart will be there too.”

Colossians 3:1-2 “...seek those things which are above...set your mind on things which are above, not on things on the earth.”

5. Happiness is the fruit of generosity.

I Chronicles 29:9 “Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the Lord; and King David also rejoiced greatly.”

The root word for miserable is miser.

6. I’m blessed in return.

Luke 6:38 LB ‘For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give—large or small—will be used to measure what is given back to you.’

Proverbs 22:9 “He who is generous will be blessed.”

II. Generosity is both planned and intentional.

Generosity Ladder:

Extravagant

Tither

Intentional Giver

Occasional Giver

First Time Giver