



Kingdom Living – Generous Lives

Date: Sunday 11th June 2017

Speakers: Adam Pipe, Oliver Nyumbu

Key Verses: Acts 4, 9 & 11

Summary

Building lives of breath-taking generosity is the gateway to becoming spiritually healthy and truly alive. More than anything else, generosity has the capacity to break the power of idolatry in our lives. It loosens the grip of greed and helps us find the freedom our hearts need. We need to learn to cultivate an abundance mentality that closes the door on anxiety and simultaneously invites us into joyous expectancy. We discover that generosity is something God wants FOR us and not something he wants FROM us. We need learn how to take the next step in fuelling the impossible in our lives and how to multiply life in our cities through the biblical practice of breath-taking generosity.

Questions for small groups

- Go around the group and talk about someone whose generosity has impacted you
- What principles of generosity are set out in the Bible? Split up into twos and threes. Share out the following verses then feedback to the main group:

Deuteronomy 15:10	1 Chronicles 29:14	2 Chronicles 31:5
Psalms 37:21	Psalms 37:26	Psalms 112:5
Proverbs 11:25	Proverbs 22:9	Matthew 20:15
Luke 11:41	Romans 12:8	2 Corinthians 9:5
2 Corinthians 9:6	2 Corinthians 9:11	1 Timothy 6:18
Titus 3:6	James 1:5	

- Consider the example of Barnabas in Acts 4, 9 & 11. In what ways did Barnabas demonstrate Kingdom generosity?
- Acts 4:36 One fellow, a Cyprian Levite named Joseph, earned a nickname because of his generosity in selling a field and bringing the money to the apostles in this way. From that time on, they called him Barnabas, which means “son of encouragement.” How does Barnabas contrast with Ananias and Sapphira?
- In the talk on Sunday Adam quoted Alan Scott who said 'Kingdom Generosity is an opportunity to join the conspiracy of God in meeting the needs and releasing the dreams of others.' What excites you about this quote?
- Discuss practical ways you can grow in generosity as:
Individuals/Families/In the workplace/Small Group/Community
- Discuss as a group how generosity flows from God's great generosity demonstrated in Christ on the Cross (use this as a Springboard for worship)

Activity

Titus 3:3-6

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Consider your life as a fountain drawing up water from God then flowing out to those around you. What blocks you from either receiving or giving out? This could lead to ministry