

From the Overflow – Week 3 November 24 | Weekly Devotionals

Introduction

Throughout this sermon series, we're taking a look at what the Bible says about money, generosity, and our stewardship of the resources God has gifted to us.

Each day through this series, we want to dig into various Scriptures that speak to the topic of generosity specifically allowing the word of God to shape our thinking about money and our giving. Over the next three weeks, use this guide to dig into the various Scriptures, inviting the Holy Spirit to show you something fresh, breathe new life, convict where needed, and reveal the hope that living a generous life can bring.

Each day, take time to slow down, inviting Jesus to shape your time in his word. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he wants to teach you.

Sermon Reflection:

Take some time to reflect on your key takeaways from the sermon.

What stood out the most to you? What questions do you have? What was stirred in you as you listened?

Daily Devotional Reading

Begin each day by finding a quiet place where you can spend time with God in his word. Quiet distractions and start with a moment of silent prayer. Before reading, pray that the Holy Spirit would open your eyes and heart to what God wants to say to you.

Day 1

Read Mark 12:41-44.

Reflection Questions:

- What does this story show about our giving in the Kingdom of God and what is valued by Jesus?
- How does the widow's trust in God challenge your own approach to finances and resources?
- Do you give to God and others out of abundance or out of sacrifice? How do you determine the way you give?
- What might Jesus be calling you to consider when it comes to the motives and attitudes behind your generosity?

Prayer: Pray for the same kind of sacrificial heart the widow had. Invite the Lord to show you where you can sacrifice and what kind of gift would be valued in your own life.

Day 2

Read Luke 12:13-21.

Reflection Questions:

- Reflect on the parable of the rich fool. In what ways do you see yourself tempted to build "bigger barns" or accumulate more than you need?
- How does this passage challenge your own views on wealth, success, and the security that comes from having an abundance of possessions?
- In what ways do you rely on your possessions or financial security for your sense of well-being? In what ways do you find yourself tempted to store up wealth or seek security in material things? How might God be inviting you to trust him more deeply?

• Jesus warns against greed in all forms. What forms of greed might be present in your life, even if subtle? How can you guard against them?

Prayer: Pray for God to search your heart, showing you where you are storing up things for yourself and are not rich toward God. Invite the Lord to help you to uproot greed in your life and cultivate contentment.

<u>Day 3</u>

Read Matthew 6:19-24.

Reflection Questions:

- What kind of "treasures" do you find yourself most focused on accumulating? Are these treasures earthly or heavenly? How do they reflect your priorities?
- How do Jesus' teachings on wealth challenge or affirm your current lifestyle choices and financial habits?
- In what ways do you feel divided between serving God and being attached to material wealth? How does this inner conflict affect your spiritual life? How does this affect your generosity and giving?
- Jesus says, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Where is your heart right now, and what does it reveal about your spiritual focus? Are there shifts that need to be made?

Prayer: Pray for God to reveal anywhere in your life where you are not storing up treasures in heaven. Ask for the courage to be fully devoted to God and his Kingdom.

<u>Day 4</u>

Read Proverbs 3:5-12 and Proverbs 30:7-9.

Reflection Questions:

- What does it mean to trust in the Lord with all your heart? Are there areas in your life where you struggle to fully trust God? How does this affect your generosity specifically?
- How do you usually lean on your own understanding instead of acknowledging God in your decisions? What might change if you actively sought his guidance?
- In what ways do you honor God with your wealth or resources? How can you be more intentional in giving back to God as an act of trust?

What does contentment look like in your life, and how can you cultivate it? Are
there ways you can practice gratitude for what you already have? How might
contentment affect your generosity and giving?

Prayer: Take time to pray for greater trust in the Lord. Think about the ways the Lord has blessed you and been generous to you. Spend some time in gratitude for his faithfulness and for the ways he has provided for you.

Day 5

Revisit the Scripture this week that made the most impact on you. Re-read the text and spend some time praying through your response to reading.

<u>Day 6</u>

As you look back over the week's Scripture passages, are there any themes that stand out in your time with the Lord and in his word? Are there any lingering questions you have as you review where you've been this week? What invitations is God giving to you? Pray for the courage to step into the places he's inviting you.

Sermon series wrap-up reflection:

As you reflect on these last three weeks of studying what the Bible says about generosity, consider these questions:

- How has your biblical understanding of generosity grown over the last three weeks?
- What shifts do you plan to make in your life because of the teachings, reading the Scriptures, and spending time in prayer?
- What questions do you still have about what the Bible says about money?
- With whom do you want to share what you've learned?