

# LIFEGROUPS - Facilitator Notes

## Generosity: Part 3 – Freely you have received, freely give.



**Suggested icebreaker:** Can you think of a time when someone was very generous to you?

Generosity is a distinguishing characteristic of the Church of Jesus Christ. **Read Mark 12: 30-31:** Jesus highlighted the most important commandments when He said *'And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength... You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'* God commands us to follow in His example and love those around us. Furthermore, He commands us to be practical in our love for people. Examine **James 2:15-18** & **Hebrews 13:15-16**.

Q. How do these scriptures highlight the importance of practical love (generosity) that shows our faith in Jesus Christ?

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Q. Can you think of examples within your own life where the Church has shown you this kind of love?

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- Generosity is a practical application of love. It reflects the way we view God and those around us. God is the ultimate example of generosity. Read **John 3:16-17** & **Roman 3:19-26**.

Q. From reading these scriptures, what is the greatest gift that God has given you?

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Q. What does this gift mean to you personally?

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- The greatest gift that we have to give goes far beyond money and possessions. The book of Acts gives an account of two of Jesus' disciples sharing the greatest gift they have ever received. Read **Acts chapter 3** as a group.

The apostles identify a need far greater than money and go about giving from the abundance of God's Spirit. They manage to share Jesus with thousands of people and make an eternal change in many lives.

Q. In what way does this passage change your perspective of generosity?

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Q. Can you think of someone you know who is crying out for this type of generosity?

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- Generosity breeds generosity. It creates a culture. Refer to **Acts 2:44-45** & **Acts 4:32**. Observe and discuss the way the early Church became a naturally generous people.

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List some practical ways you as individuals, and as a group, could be generous with those around you.

Q. How has God's love and generosity motivated you to be generous within your own life?

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Q. What can you do in the coming week to identify and meet needs in the people around you?

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**(Read Matthew 10:7-8)**