

FPU Devotion – Outrageous Generosity

Financial Peace University

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11

We are Called to be Generous Stewards

Dave Ramsey says in the final session of FPU, "The peace in Financial Peace comes from outrageous generosity."

Much has been written and spoken about generosity. We are familiar with stories of people being generous. We are encouraged to be generous. But what does a generous person look like? R. Scott Rodin writes in *Christ-Centered Generosity*, "Generosity is a strong, powerful, and mysterious thing. It changes us when we do it. It changes us when it is done to us." Generosity is a characteristic of the Christian steward.

Willard and Sheppard write in *Contagious Generosity*, "Before we can be generous, we must understand what it means to be a steward." They are right. The Christian steward understands that God is the Owner. We can only share what has been given to us. King David, in his prayer recorded in 1 Chronicles 29, underscores that important truth:

"Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours...both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all...But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."

Just as God is generous to us, He encourages us to be generous to others, "(We)are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share." 1 Timothy 6:18



Discussion Questions:

1. How do you define generosity?
2. We can be generous because God has been generous to us. Give some examples of God's generosity.
3. What is the greatest example of God's generosity? John 3:16
4. Paul asks in 1 Cor. 4:7 – What do we have that we did not receive? How would you answer that question?

Stewardship Truth:

God's stewards understand that everything we have comes to us from a loving and generous God. Our desire is to share that love and generosity with others.