

From the Overflow – Week 1 November 10 | 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.

As we begin this series, take a moment to reflect on your personal practice of generosity and how it relates to the life of the church.

Take some time to prayerfully consider these questions:

- How do you experience generosity in your daily life?
- What does generosity mean to you?
- How are you currently honoring God with your personal finances?
- What are some specific ways you see financial generosity shaping the ministry of the church?

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 and invite Jesus to shape your time in his word. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he wants to teach you.

Week 1:

Sermon Reflection:

Take some time to reflect on your key takeaways from the sermon. What stood out to you most? 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. Consider reading the passage two times and then answering the reflection questions.

<u>Day 1</u>

Read 2 Samuel 24:1-25.

Reflection Questions:

- Why did David insist on paying Araunah for the threshing floor and oxen?
 Why did it matter so much to him?
- What godly characteristics did this choice build in David?
- When was the last time you sacrificed something to the Lord that cost you something?
- Is there anything God might be inviting you to sacrifice to him that costs you something? Do you believe it will be worth the cost?

Prayer: Pray for courage, like David, to step into the kind of sacrifice that will cost you something. Ask the Lord to show you what kind of sacrifice he's inviting you to make.

Day 2

Read Exodus 35:4-36:7.

Reflection Questions:

- What do you notice about the extravagant giving of the Israelite community when it came to building the tabernacle?
- Imagine what it would look like today for a church leader to say what was conveyed to Moses in Exodus 36:4-5: "The people are bringing more than

- enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done." What would need to be true for that to be the case in our community?
- Is there something more you could currently bring that would contribute to the work that needs to be done in the Kingdom?

Prayer: Pray for the financial resources and spiritual gifts that have been given to the people in our church community to be unleashed for God's glory and the building of his Church and spreading the gospel. Ask the Lord if there is anything more he wants from you in this work.

<u>Day 3</u>

Read Luke 22:1-6.

Reflection Questions:

- In what way was money used to entice Judas to betray Jesus?
- Are there any ways money, financial security, greed, or materialism keep you from following Jesus wholeheartedly?
- Where has money or the pursuit of wealth instead of Jesus captured your heart? How might God be inviting you to respond?

Prayer: Pray for the courage to lay down any idols associated with money. Ask the Lord to "search your heart" (Psalm 149:23) and show you anywhere money has a grip on you. Invite him to break any strongholds related to money.

<u>Day 4</u>

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-19.

Reflection Questions:

- What would cultivating contentment in your life look like, particularly as it relates to money or material things?
- Are there any temptations that entice you where money is concerned? How can you ask for help from the Holy Spirit to flee from those temptations?
- Are there any places in your life where, being "eager for money," you have "wandered from the faith and pierced yourself with many griefs"? What would it look like for you to "flee from all of this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness"?

Prayer: Take time to pray through the last question, inviting God to reveal any places where you have pursued money over the things of God. Ask for the grace to step into the pursuit of godly things that will last.

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.

Day 6

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.