

From the Overflow – Week 2 November 17 | 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'll 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, invite 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.

<u>Day 1</u>

Read 2 Corinthians 8-9.

Reflection Questions:

- What would it look like for you to "excel in this grace of giving" (verse 7)?
- How have you seen 2 Corinthians 9:6 to be true in your own life and in the lives of others?
- Take some time to truly assess your heart toward giving. Do you give reluctantly, under compulsion, or cheerfully? What would it look like to move toward joyful giving?

Prayer: Take time to ask the Lord to search your heart and show you where it truly lies. Are you giving reluctantly or cheerfully? Pray for a heart that desires giving first. Pray, thanking God for the ways he has made you "rich in every way."

<u>Day 2</u>

Read Acts 4:32-37.

Reflection Questions:

- As you read through this passage, imagine what it would be like to have "no needy persons" among us. What would be needed in order for that to happen?
- When you read of Joseph of Cyprus selling a field and bringing the money to the apostles' feet, how do you respond? Does that seem extravagant? If so, why?
- What would need to be true in order for you to live out this passage yourself? How might you move toward that today?

Prayer: Pray for God to show you how this type of extravagant giving could be a reality in your own life. Pray for our church community, including you and your family, to move toward this type of generosity. Ask for a heart that responds to the resurrection of Jesus and longs to meet the needs present in our community.

Day 3

Read Mark 14:1-11.

Reflection Questions:

- Why would the woman use such expensive perfume to anoint Jesus? What would have compelled her to do such an extravagant thing?
- When you read, notice the various responses to money (by the woman, by those who were present who rebuked her, and by Judas). Which seems to resonate most with you? Why?
- What would it take for you to give Jesus the kind of extravagant gift the woman gave to him?

Prayer: Pray for the courage to defy practicality with extravagant giving to the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in what that might look like. Pray against any scarcity that might keep you from giving with such freedom.

<u>Day 4</u>

Read Matthew 5:13-16.

Reflection Questions:

- How does your giving help you live as salt and light?
- In what way does generosity become a witness to the world?

Prayer: Pray for the Lord to show you where your generosity can be a witness for the Gospel. Ask for any specific way you'd like to see the Lord use your generosity to connect people to Jesus.

<u>Day 5</u>

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 extending to you? Pray for the courage to step into the places he's inviting you.