

Making Change

Giving is Good

TALK IT OVER

Week Three

Think back to Brad's message. What sticks out?

Key Scripture

"... keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, for he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35 HCSB

Grow in Generosity

1. Trust God with the tithe.

"Every tenth of the lands produce, grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord." Leviticus 27:30 NCSB

"Bring the full tenth into the storehouse so that there may be food in my house. Test me in this way, says the Lord of Hosts. See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure." Malachi 3:10 HCSB

2. Plan your generosity.

But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity. Isaiah 32:8 NLT

3. Start being generous now.

And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ. Philemon 1:6 NLT

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What's the best thing you've ever been given?
- What's the most meaningful thing you've ever given away?

Start thinking. Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- How do you think your life would look in five years if you increased your generosity now? What if you didn't?
- Read Acts 20:35, and Proverbs 11:24-25. Why do you think we still struggle to be generous?
- When do you find yourself living in a scarcity mindset? When do you act more from an abundance mindset?

Start sharing. Choose questions that create openness.

- Have you ever had someone bless you with something totally unexpected, yet totally needed? Can you share?
- Do you have any stories of how giving to God or someone else led to a breakthrough in your life?
- Are you still holding on to baggage that keeps you from living generously? If so, talk about it, no matter how embarrassed or angry it makes you.
- What scares you and/or excites you about living on God's 90% rather than on your 100%? God desires obedience in this area of life because he knows what real financial freedom, peace, and joy really look like. He wants to be the #1 desire of your heart, and money and "things" have a sneaky way of capturing our heart and holding on to our time, attention, and affection.

Start praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

- God, this all started because you gave us Jesus. We want to give our lives back to you and this includes the resources you give us.

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Show us specific ways to increase our generosity and commit our resources to accomplishing your ways. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Brad encouraged us to tithe, plan our generosity, and start being generous now. What are your next steps?
- Start reading Dave Ramsey's *Financial Wisdom from Proverbs* today. [Individual Devotional](#). Commit to working through this 10-day practical devotional over the course of the Making Change series.
- Try the three-month tithe challenge! <http://shiftchurchgainesville.com/3-month-giving-challenge/>