



Big Idea

Give generously and willingly to others. We tend to operate in a “high expectation, low sweat generation” mindset. As our world moves faster and our attention is pulled more and more directions, it is hard to give our time, talents, energy and even finances to one thing fully and attentively. It can be even harder to do it with a willing heart. The story of Rebekah shows us, though, the blessing that can come out of offering the most of ourselves to someone in need. Rather than asking “what’s the least I can do?” we should shift our mindset to “what else can I do?”.

You can’t be generous and legalistic at the same time. Giving and giving generously are not the same. When we give, let it be out of pure joy and desire to bless others. Giving is not about who knows how much we gave or even what the recipient does with our generosity. Giving is a personal, heart-felt conviction between God and the giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 says “Each of you should give what you have *decided in your heart* to give, *not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

You can’t take it with you, but you can send it on ahead. Make the decision, without searching emotion, to be generous. Our emotions in regards to giving can change with our fleshly concerns of this world. However, the Lord promises we will not lose our heavenly reward! (Matthew 10:42) When we make a covenant to live generously, we invest in our eternity. (Matthew 6:19-20). Our feelings will lie to us. A decision will stick with us forever.

In this day and age, it seems harder and harder to show people the love of Jesus. We know, though, that the fastest way to change someone’s mind is to connect with their heart. And the fastest way to connect with their heart is through generosity. Isn’t this how Jesus caught the attention of others?

Discussion Questions

- Talk about a time you were on the receiving end of generosity. How did it impact you?
- What areas do you feel led to give more in? (Identify time, talents, etc.)
- Do you have a hidden passion/talent that you could use to serve others? Share.
- What is it that holds you back from using your resources to bless and serve others?

Next Steps

- How can we pray for you this week? Write down each person’s prayer requests and make it a point to pray for them and text them with an encouraging word at some point this week.
- Look for opportunities to give generously.

Pray

- Pray for opportunities and courage to give generously.
- Pray for the family of George Floyd and those involved.
- Pray for the unification of our country.