

GENEROSITY

Webster defines generosity as "the willingness to give or an act of unselfish giving."

Let's look at how the Bible defines generosity:

Compare the rich man in Mark 10:17-24 with the widow in Mark 12:41-44.

Why do you think the rich man could not part with his wealth?

Why would the widow give everything she had?

When would you ever be willing to give everything you had? What would hold you back?

Read about the stingy man in Proverbs 23:6-8. He says to eat & drink, but he begrudges every bite you take. His appearance to others is important to him, but his heart drives how he truly is.

Compare the stingy man to those in 2 Cor. 8:1-5.

What is the secret to them giving beyond their own ability? Have you ever done the "fall test" where you fall backwards into someone's arms? How does that make you feel? How can we ever trust so much that we give beyond our own ability? Should we? When can we?

Read Mark 12:33-34 and Romans 8:14-17.

What do these scriptures mean to you personally?

The Bible has much to say about giving and being generous.

Read 2 Cor. 9:6-8 where Paul says we should give freely, cheerfully and with purpose.

How do you see giving freely? What is the importance of giving cheerfully? What does it mean to give with purpose? Why is that important?

Read Luke 16:10. What would it take for the rich man (from Mark 10) to get to this level of understanding spiritually?

God is always faithful. Read Luke 6:38, Malachi 3:8-12 and 1 Cor. 16:2. List all the promises you see there. Are you ready to do the "fall test" with God behind you?

August 9, 2015

You Asked For It

What keeps me from giving more?

Pastor Rick Rufenacht



Spirituality and generosity are **linked**.

Luke 3: 10 - 14 2 Cor 8:7

Change Your **values**.

Luke 12:16 - 34 Psalm 49:16-17

I get in the way

my wants and desires for material things

Mark 10:17-23 Pr 23:4 1Tim 6:10

my lack of discipline

Luke 16:10

Lack of trust in God.

2 Cor 8: 1-5 2 Cor 9:10-11