

## WEEK OF JULY 9TH, 2023 THE 3 T'S OF GIVING GENEROUSLY

Speaker: Pastor Mike Campbell



What song makes you "get up off of that thing" as soon as you hear it?

#### Introduction

- In what ways do you need to renew your mind when it comes to generosity?
- God has called us to "superabound" in life. To "superabound" means,
  in quality or quantity, to be in excess. Does this word invoke an
  emotional response in you? Do you feel the Holy Spirit is telling you
  something?
- In Luke 10:25-28, notice that the lawyer knew to love God and his neighbor. But then he seemed confused and asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Who is your neighbor? How well are you doing at loving your neighbor - even the less lovable ones?
- · Are your eyes open to compassion? What does that mean?

#### Give Your Time

- If God popped up and asked you if you'd be willing to offer yourself, what would you say? What if He asked you to drop EVERYTHING in order to give time to Him?
- Our daily routine is made up of 24 hours in which we live our life, and our lives are made up of moments in time. Moments can be kairos (time with God), while time in this context would be chronos (time spent on our daily lives). What are some kairos moments in your life where God interrupted your schedule? How did you feel about it?
- Do you see yourself as someone who would stop and help or are you too busy? Why?

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- Ephesians 5:15-17 reads, "Be very careful, then, how you live not as unwise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is." ....Perhaps the Levites in the Good Samaritan story didn't lack compassion, but just didn't know the will of the Lord. Examine your own life, how can you better understand what the will of the Lord is to be a better steward of your time?
- What did Pastor Mike Campbell mean when he talked about how you can redeem time?
- Where is God on your agenda? If the tables were reversed and He placed you in the same spot, how would you feel?

#### Give Your Talent

- Go around the group and have each person share their talent(s). How are you using them? How are you not using them?
- In Luke 10:33, the Samaritan knew what to do and used his ability to do it. He stopped what he was doing (used his time), treated the man's wounds (used his talents), transported him to an inn and paid the innkeeper to continue his treatment (used his treasure). All this, even though they were not friends. Imagine yourself as the Samaritan. Who is that one person you really don't like that God is calling you to help?
- · Where is God showing you to use your talents?
- Do you feel like your talents can truly make a difference for someone?
   Why or why not?

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#### Give Your Treasure

- Pastor Mike Campbell told us, "Your heart always identifies your treasure.
   It will either be centered on selfishness or generosity." Where is your
   heart centered? In what way could you center your life more on
   generosity and less on you?
- When we give, it's to reach the harvest. If it is difficult for you to give, why is it that?
- Our giving is not measured by how much you give but by the heart of how you give it. When your heart is in it, God receives the gift, not according to the size but the motive of your heart. Look inward at the motive of your heart. How is your motive?
- Pastor Mike Campbell shared the quote, "True prosperity is having nothing broken, nothing missing, and nothing lacking." Knowing that, in ways are you prosperous? Where has God been good to you?

## act on it



### **ENCOURAGE**

Once we love God, we can't help but to love people! Once we love people, giving generously becomes a natural response. God wants us to "superabound" in our giving. God wants us to be extravagant with our time, talents, and treasures. He wants us to make time to hear & see the needs around us. He wants us to use the talents He gives us to move into action where He has us, in a way that only we can. God wants us to give our treasures, to center ourselves with generous hearts instead of selfish reasons. When we steward what little we have now, God blesses those He can trust. That's why true prosperity can only be found in God.



### **ASK**

Is your relationship with Jesus affecting your generosity? Are you willing to let God interrupt your schedule to serve others? God wants us to excel in three areas: Time, talent, and treasure. Examine yourself. Are you excelling at giving your time? Your talent? Your treasure? Which one of those areas have you been holding onto too tightly?



### **CHALLENGE**

Get up off of that thing and serve someone this week! Go to the SERVE Day app and sign up to join or lead a serve project on July 15th. Has God been asking you to take a step forward in your generosity? Sit down with your family and explore what that would look like. Make a new friend by serving someone with kind words or encouragement. Sometimes all it takes to serve someone is to give a smile, hug, prayer or a phone call to someone in need.



Lord, thank You for being a compassionate and generous God. You always provide what we need when we need it, and we're so thankful. Thank You for the compassion that You have for us and the entire world. Because You loved us first, we can love, period. As we continue to grow our love for You, grow our love for the people around us. Help us set aside comforts and preferences so we can move into action for those suffering around us. Help us to hear and see the needs around us and to make time to meet them. Help us take mundane moments and redeem them for the miraculous. We invite You to interrupt our schedule with divine moments. Show us our talents and how we can use them generously. We want to be a blessing to others. Lord, help us center our hearts on generosity. Help us to be outwardly-focused people motivated by our love for You and people to give whatever is needed. We submit our lives to You. Transform us into generous people so that others may come to know Christ. We ask all of this in this in Your Name, Amen.