

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Grace & Generosity | "The Generosity of Jesus" | Pastor Mike McKinney

Monday, Oct. 27 - Sunday, Nov. 2 (Week 7)

Emphasis for the Month: **Creating a Culture of Honesty and Grace**

With several weeks of community under your belt, your group is ready to begin sharing more personally. True discipleship grows in environments where people can be honest about struggles and know they will be met with grace. This month, lead the way in vulnerability. Maybe share your own story, ask good follow-up questions, and remind your group that the gospel gives us freedom to be known and loved at the same time. Vulnerability today builds the soil for transformation tomorrow.

ICE BREAKER: If you suddenly received a large sum of money, what would be the first thing you'd do with it and why?

CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. We hope you will join us every Tuesday at 6:30 PM for our weekly prayer gathering.
2. **Covenant Members of Church at Bergen** - Mark your calendars for Friday, Dec. 5th @ 7PM for a special Worship & Vision night. You won't want to miss it!

PRAYER FOR DISCUSSION: Leader or Co-Leader prays for the discussion time. Pray that The Holy Spirit would assist in the conversing, processing, and listening of the discussion.

SERMON DISCUSSION TIME: Have someone read this week's scripture from 2 Corinthians 8:8-15, and then this sermon summary to jog everyone's memory:

What does true wealth look like? In this message about the grace of Jesus, Pastor Mike explores how the richest being in existence chose poverty for our sake. Through a deep dive into 2 Corinthians 8:8-15, we discover that Jesus concealed his infinite riches beneath human flesh not to flaunt his wealth, but to give it away. By becoming poor and taking on our spiritual debt at the cross, Christ made an extraordinary exchange: our poverty for his riches. This radical generosity transforms how we view everything we have. We are challenged to see that we're not truly givers, but channels through which God provides for others' needs. Whether rich or poor, we're all receivers of his grace. Through compelling examples from the Macedonian churches and Thomas Brooks' insights on Christ's "unsearchable riches," we learn that true generosity flows not from guilt or duty, but from hearts transformed by Jesus' sacrificial gift.

QUESTION #1 - How does understanding the riches of Christ and His willingness to become poor for our sake change your perspective on generosity?

Potential Answers:

- It highlights the sacrificial nature of true generosity, encouraging us to give selflessly.



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- It shifts the focus from material wealth to spiritual richness, prompting us to value eternal treasures over earthly ones.
- It inspires gratitude and a desire to emulate Christ's example in our own giving.

QUESTION #2 - In what ways do you find it challenging to surrender your finances to Jesus? What fears or concerns hold you back?

Potential Answers:

- Fear of not having enough for personal needs or future security.
- Lack of trust in God's provision or uncertainty about financial stability.
- Attachment to material possessions or lifestyle.

QUESTION #3 - How can sharing stories of generosity within our community inspire and encourage others to give?

Potential Answers:

- Personal testimonies can demonstrate the impact of generosity and motivate others to act similarly.
- Stories can reveal God's faithfulness and provision, building faith and trust in His promises.
- They can create a culture of openness and encouragement around giving.

QUESTION #4 - What role should the church play in encouraging and facilitating generosity among its members?

Potential Answers:

- Teaching biblical principles of stewardship and generosity.
- Providing opportunities and platforms for giving and serving.
- Celebrating acts of generosity and sharing testimonies to inspire others.

QUESTION #5 - How does the concept of receiving all of Christ's riches at the moment of faith challenge or affirm your understanding of salvation and grace?

Potential Answers:

- It affirms the completeness and sufficiency of Christ's work on the cross.
- It challenges any belief in earning or working for God's favor and blessings.
- It emphasizes the immediacy and fullness of God's grace upon belief.



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QUESTION #6 - What does it mean to give proportionally to what God has entrusted to you, and how can you discern what that looks like in your life?

Potential Answers:

- It means giving in accordance with your means, recognizing that all you have is from God.
- It involves prayerfully considering your resources and seeking God’s guidance on how to allocate them.
- It requires a heart posture of gratitude and stewardship, rather than obligation.

PRAY TOGETHER: Spend time taking *and recording* prayer requests and then pray together as a group (*I strongly encourage you to send out the prayer requests weekly to your group to keep everyone informed and in the loop on how to pray for one another throughout the week. This also makes it easier to check-in with people who have shared requests to see how the Lord has been working in their lives*).



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