

Homegroup Worksheet

Holy Habits Series - Generosity

Sunday 11/02/2024 – Rev David Miller – Active Generosity

Sunday 18/02/2024 – Lucy Worth – Giving Generously

Leaders: Please encourage your group to look back at the Sunday service talks from David and Lucy.

Hello everyone and welcome to our series embracing Holy Habits and looking at a variety of themes around generosity. This series uses the Sunday service talks to give space to explore and dig deeper our view of generosity and its place in our daily lives as we continue to press into our place in God's heart for us.

Opening

So, let's dig deeper into generosity and where God is calling us both as faith filled individuals and as a community of believers. Let's begin with some time catching up then transition into the study with a prayer of thanksgiving.

Week 11/02/2024 talk – Active Generosity

Rev David Miller led us to II Corinthians 8; and highlighted the following:

1. The Corinthian church was an amazing place; but it was both their glory and their downfall. They became overinflated and lost their grounding in Christ.
 - a. How might we always remain grounded in Christ, both as individuals and as church family together?
2. In II Corinthians 8:2, Paul states: That even with an abundance the Corinthians never seemed to have enough and yet, the hill tribes, with little, always seemed to have enough. The hill tribes had abundant gratitude and were generous in spirit!
Was the Corinthian church abundantly grateful – NO it seems not!
 - a. Perhaps reflect on our own heart attitudes – take a moment to reflect with Jesus – share any insights.
 - b. David posed the question. Does this lead us to be content with what we have or have we been corroded with discontent - seeking the next new and shiny thing?
3. The apostle Paul invites us not just to be thankful but also to seek active generosity. This will be different to each of us of course and the beauty is when we pull together as a family it becomes so powerful!
4. Remember we are special because we are called; not called because we're special. Special because we're special in God's eyes...not in the eyes of man!
 - a. So, we are encouraged to also excel in this grace of giving – Is there a heavenly challenge there? How about stepping up a bit more? Again, take a moment to reflect with Jesus – share any insights.

Week 18/02/2024 talk – Giving Generosity

Lucy Worth led us to II Corinthians 9, and highlighted the following:

5. All family members should participate together.
6. All grace gifts are equal in God's eyes.
7. Verses 6-7; God's economy is nothing like the world's economy!
 - a. What might this mean for us?
8. The science of generosity; some thoughts from Lucy (and the bible)
 - a. Why do we give? – What drives us to do this?
 - b. Generosity – the brain is wired for this (creation)
 - c. Generosity is proven to add to both physical and mental well being (creation)
 - d. Generosity is something we're born with (creation)
9. How do you feel when you are generous to others?
10. How might we as individuals or/and as a church increase our generosity to more visibly proclaim Jesus into the community?

Closing

If helpful remind your group that the apostle Paul is seeking to encourage the Corinthian church to return their foundations in Jesus:

- Chapter 8: Encouragement and examples in giving; to follow the biblical principle of giving in proportion to what we have – to maintain fairness.
- Chapter 9: How God wants us to give – God is able to make all grace abound toward you – He wants us to be generous in our good works and He will provide all that is needed to do so.

For us our generosity begs the question from the world – Why are you doing this? – presenting us the opportunity to share Jesus with them!

Please use this to form part of closing prayers. Please reassure people its ok if they feel any sense of trepidation in any of this – God loves us to seek him out - we're in God's hands – hallelujah! This can also be lifted back to God in prayer.

So, try to finish well. This might not mean a tidy finish – there may be much left unresolved – that's ok and please feed questions back to us.

It's always good to end in prayer so draw conversations to a close and let's get praying –

- Themes from this evening can be lifted in prayer.
- If excited, then let God know.
- If reassurance needed, then seek God's grace and peace in people's hearts.
- Other prayer needs in the room.

If you're on track with all of this then let the group know that next time, we'll be exploring more of what generosity might be for us both personally and collectively as the Bride of Christ.

Leaders, please provide feedback from your session 1 to us by dropping an email to:

grahambates54@gmail.com and pinktraceyj@yahoo.co.uk

How did the session go?

Significant points raised?

Areas that need further/future support/clarification?

Thanks