

Genetically Generous | Week 1 - We are Wired for Generosity

Message Big Idea

We're wired for generosity because we're made in the image of a generous God.

Scripture

1 John 4:7-8 & Psalm 24:1-2

Opening Question

1. Have you ever researched your family tree or taken one of those genetic tests? If so, what did it reveal? If not, would you?

Opening Thought

We are made in the image of a generous God, a God who created a world of such beauty that it can sometimes take our breath away. This generous God gave us similar characteristics so that we are also wired for generosity. How would "owning" that characteristic change how you see yourself and others?

Bible Discussion

2. Read 1 John 4:7-8. What stood out to you? What implications could that have for your life?
3. Our God is a generous God whose characteristics include faithfulness, love and generosity. What are some other stories from the Bible that center on these characteristics of God?
4. Read Psalm 24:1-2. One of the ways we see God's generosity is through His gift of creation. What does that say about God's nature?

Life Application

5. Looking at our world and the gifts given there, what thoughts come up around how we are to be generous as God is generous? Have you ever thought of yourself in terms of being genetically disposed to generosity?
6. Generosity is the impulse of love. Have you ever been deeply moved by someone else's gift? Can you share that story – what was it and what was it like?
7. When you think about how each of us is made in God's image, what are some generosity practices you could introduce into your life?

Challenge

Think of two ways this week you could be generous as God is generous. What would it look like? A meal for a friend? A handwritten card? Giving to COMMUNITY's benevolence fund or saving up for an extra special offering on a Sunday? Could you get creative about your gift? Brainstorm as a group and share your ideas with one another. You might also consider finding a way to do it together as a group.