

Genetically Generous | Week 4 - Excelling in the Grace of Giving

Message Big Idea

We grow as we stretch ourselves beyond our genetic generosity.

Scripture

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Points to Keep In Mind

1. Macedonia (the Northern part of Greece) became home to several early churches Paul writes to and mentions in his letters – Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea. These young Macedonian churches were sorely persecuted from the time they came to faith and it had left them financially bereft, yet they still gave “as much as they were able and even beyond their ability” (verse 3). The Macedonians wanted to give and saw it as a privilege to give. At this time, the Corinthians were experiencing prosperity and had a much different mindset. They saw generosity as a charity, an act of kindness coming from the goodness of their own hearts, while the Macedonians viewed generosity as a ministry opportunity to partner with God.
2. We want everyone at COMMUNITY to take the Generosity Profile survey, so if someone missed group last week, give them time to take the survey. A small group is the best context to take the survey because it provides a chance for immediate feedback, discussion and encouragement. Remind people that this is a survey, not a test. It is designed to help individuals see their strengths and growth opportunities related to generosity. Help each group member explore their profile and finish your time discussing and praying about how this profile might be a tool for personal development as we lean into God and learn more about ourselves.
3. Some ideas for the challenge ending are utilizing the B.L.E.S.S. strategy with someone God puts on your heart, serving at a local food pantry or increasing your giving incrementally throughout the year.

Additional Questions and Resources

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? communitychristian.org/baptism
4. What have you been learning from the Community Daily? communitychristian.org/daily
5. Looking for Financial Resources? Check out communitychristian.org/financialresources
6. Find out more about having a YOU+ conversation by visiting: communitychristian.org/you/