

Generosity

Freedom from smallness of heart

Part 1: “The Generous Stranger”

Sharing our time

Definition: *Generosity = Freedom from smallness of heart*

Series theme: Generosity lies at the heart of everything good God wants to do in us and in his Kingdom.

Luke 10:30-37

In reply Jesus said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him, and went away, leaving him for dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So, too, a Levite, when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

I. Time is precious

Psalms 39:4-7

*Show me, O Lord, my life’s end and the number of my days;
let me know how fleeting is my life.*

You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is nothing before you. Each man’s life is but a breath. (Selah)

*Man is a mere phantom as he goes to and fro;
He bustles about, but only in vain;
He heaps up wealth, but not knowing who will get it.*

*But now Lore, what do I look for?
My hope is in you.*

- Time is a gift
- Time is finite

II. Everyone is busy

- Busyness is not bad
- Busyness can be a barrier to generosity

III. Generosity takes time

- Generosity takes time to see
- Generosity takes time to care