

- 1. Winston Churchill said, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Are you making a living, or making a life?**
- 2. How does the idea that generosity is something God wants “for” you more than something that God wants “from” you resonate with you? How does that change your perspective on what it means to cultivate generosity?**
- 3. What are the biggest obstacles for you in being generous?**
- 4. What is one step you can take in cultivating generosity?**



God's Enough: Cultivating Generosity

Tom Deviney



What holds us back?

The voice of fear

“If I give, there won’t be enough left for me.”

Fear of what might happen to us, along with a misplaced idea about the true source of our security, keeps us from being generous and leads us to hoard what we have. The truth is that hoarding offers us no real security in this world.



What holds us back?

The voice of self-gratification

“If I give, I won’t have enough money to buy the stuff I need to make me happy”

Our culture tells us that our lives consist in the abundance of our possessions and pleasurable experiences. So we find ourselves thinking, If I give, there won’t be enough left for me.



“Poverty is not measured so much by what we have, but by what we think we lack.”

St. Francis of Assisi



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Learn to Trust God

Genesis 28:20–22 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you.”

Proverbs 22:9 Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.



Offer Gratitude

Proverbs 11:24–25 Some give freely, yet grow all the richer; others withhold what is due, and only suffer want. A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives water will get water.

Proverbs 22:9 Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.



Live a Life of Service and Generosity

Mark 12:41–44 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

1 Timothy 6:17–19 As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.



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