

“Free-Flowing Generosity” Group Guide

Series: Tune My Heart: Generosity

Passage: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

Speaker: Pastor Ryan Paulson

Date: November 23, 2025

ICEBREAKER: Share your favorite Thanksgiving tradition.



Learning His Way: *Discovering the Way of Jesus*

1. Read 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 out loud together. What words or phrases stand out to you? What questions do you have?
2. Which picture of giving has shaped you more in your past: shame-based giving (like the angry pastor) or grace-based giving (like Theo)? How has that shaped the way you think about generosity today?
3. Ryan talked about the fact that the law of a tithe isn't reiterated in the New Testament and that the principle is freely chosen generosity. What is your response to that?



Forming His Heart: *How is God shaping my character and helping me to grow?*

4. Paul uses the metaphor of sowing and reaping to describe the kingdom principle of generosity. Talk about what you hear him saying in that metaphor and how you have experienced it in your life.
5. How do we guard against prosperity gospel thinking while also affirming the reality of sowing and reaping?



Joining His Mission: *What is God calling me/us to do?*

6. 2 Corinthians 9:11 says, “God enriches us in every way so we can be generous in every way.” In which “way” (emotionally, relationally, spiritually, financially, internally) do you sense God inviting you to let grace flow *through* you rather than just *to* you?
7. What's one small step you could take this week to become more of a “river” than a “reservoir”?
8. If you have participated in the “21-day Generosity Challenge”, share how this challenge has impacted your own soul and/or attitude toward giving.



Closing Prayer:

Take some time as a group and, through prayer, try to find words to thank God for his “inexpressible” gift.

For further practice this week:

Happy Thanksgiving! As you enter this week, with hopefully a greater focus on gratitude, consider engaging in one or more of the following Gratitude Practices either with loved ones or in some time alone with the Lord.

Pray Aloud a Psalm of Thanksgiving:

Psalm 7:17, 28, 30, 44:4-8, 57, 69:29-36, 89, 92, 95, 111, 138

Practical Steps to Practicing Gratitude:

1. Make a habit of remembering: Psalm 77:11
“I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old.”
2. Share with others about the blessings you have received: Psalm 105:2
“Sing to him; yes, sing his praises. Tell everyone about his wonderful deeds.”
3. Keep a gratitude journal: Psalm 103:2
“Let all that I am praise the Lord; may I never forget the good things he does for me.”
4. Pray for a grateful heart.
Ask God to help you notice the goodness that surrounds you; to open your eyes to his blessings.

Journal Your Gratitude:

Consider the following questions, then journal your gratitude.

1. Name a highlight in your day.
2. Where did you see God work today?
3. What made you smile today?
4. What made you grateful today?
5. What are you learning about yourself?
6. What are you learning about God?
7. Recall a time when you felt encouraged.
8. Recount an answered prayer.
9. What do you love most about your spouse? Family? Friends?
10. What luxury are you thankful for?
11. What challenge have you overcome?
12. Recall a favorite childhood memory.
13. What is your favorite song? Food? Place to find rest?
14. What attribute of God is most significant to you?
15. Where do you notice God?

Noticing:

Noticing is a practice that is far too infrequently utilized. Noticing draws our attention to the creation that surrounds us and the Creator who has formed a beautiful tapestry of goodness, mercy and grace right before our very eyes. Noticing takes our attention off ourselves and invites us into the presence of the Almighty.

- Go for a walk outside — try not to think about anything in particular — just notice
- Breathe deeply and slowly
- Listen
- Smell
- Look
- Feel
- Ask God to reveal himself
- Call out the names of God
- Call out his blessings
- Be still and know