



TALK IT OVER

Am I Generous?

BOTTOM LINE

Generosity is when you give expecting nothing in return.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What is a tradition or custom for you in giving birthday or Christmas gifts?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/daily
- Creative [3-minute video](#) on Jesus, history, and real generosity

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus' feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance. But Judas Iscariot, the disciple who would soon betray him, said, "That perfume was worth a year's wages. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor." Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief, and since he was in charge of the disciples' money, he often stole some for himself. Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." John 12:3-8 NLT

But without faith it is impossible to please him, for he who comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

Definition of Extravagant: "The person who has or does more than you."

"You can't say God has your heart if He doesn't have your money."
– Dwight Mason

"Ninety-three to ninety-five percent of all Christians never get to the first-base level of giving, the tithe." – Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

Generosity and compassion are specific characteristics of Christian character and influence. Where and how do you see that evidence around the world? Personally and individually, what makes a person accurately described as generous and compassionate? The enemy of generosity is selfishness. Where do you see the pull of selfishness with life and resources in yourself? Discuss: No one knows who is generous and who is not because we don't know one another's financial position. It's not the amount—it's the attitude and ability behind it. God is impressed and pleased when we give Him our whole selves. How do we know when we have done that? The three levels of giving: Priority – Tithe; Percentage – offerings; Progressive – extravagant. What does that mean? Discuss your own progression in giving in attitude and understanding. How does gratitude prompt generosity? True generosity is when you give expecting nothing in return. How difficult is it to not keep score? Why? How has God rewarded your giving? How does He show generosity to you? How has He given Himself?

ACTION STEP

I will be a growing giver, thinking gratefully and responding by _____

