



16. “Generosity”

¹ Now, brethren, we wish to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, ² that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality. ³ For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord, ⁴ begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints, ⁵ and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God. ⁶ So we urged Titus that as he had previously made a beginning, so he would also complete in you this gracious work as well. ⁷ But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also. ⁸ I am not speaking this as a command, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity of your love also. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich. -2 Corinthians 8:1-9

¹⁷ Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. ¹⁸ Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed. -1 Timothy 6:17-19

Watch the video from The Bible Project [Generosity](#) prior to or at the start of the study.

1. Throughout this pandemic, in what areas have you struggled with a “scarcity mindset”?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9. What can we learn from the churches in Macedonia in terms of their generosity and the motivation for giving sacrificially?
3. Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. What sticks out to you from these verses personally? How does Paul define “treasure” and “life” in these verses and how might it differ from the world’s definition?
4. What are some things that have been (or might be) helpful for you in breaking out of a “scarcity mindset” into a more gospel-inspired “abundance mindset” that may lead you to be more generous?