



# SERMON NOTES

Week 2 November 12, 2023

**"On Mission"**

Acts 20:35; Matthew 6:21; I Corinthians 16:1-3



## I. Planning for Generosity (Premeditated and Calculated)

- A. Generosity requires a \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Generosity requires us to calculate a specific \_\_\_\_\_ or percentage ahead of time.
- C. The key to generosity is re-ordering or re-prioritizing your \_\_\_\_\_. **(Give, Save, Live).**

## II. Where to Give (Designated)

- A. Generosity means you choose ahead of time \_\_\_\_\_ you are going to give.
- B. You give from a \_\_\_\_\_ heart and you give from a broken heart.
- C. The reason that Jesus talks about giving to the poor is that the church had not \_\_\_\_\_ yet.

## III. The Early Church and Giving

- A. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth about how to deal with collecting money to help the Christians in \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. The New Testament does not prescribe an \_\_\_\_\_ or a percentage to give. How grateful are you? How broken-hearted are you?

## IV. Application: Giving Toward the Mission

- A. The driving passion of Vision 2026 is to close the \_\_\_\_\_ between what is and what should be in our lives, our community and our world.
- B. What is God \_\_\_\_\_ you to do in terms of your giving that is honoring God, and making possible ministry at Asbury Church and around the world?

***Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message***

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *November 13-18, 2023*

## INTRODUCTION

Many Christians and non-Christians alike have said or thought “the church just wants my money.” But God doesn’t need your money. When it comes to giving to the local church, God doesn’t *need something from you* he *wants something for you*.

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### Monday: 1 Corinthians 16:1-3

Paul wrote to the church in Corinth about how to deal with collecting money to help the Christians in Jerusalem. He does not prescribe an amount or a percentage to give. He is saying you should give out of gratitude and a broken heart. How grateful are you for those Christians in Jerusalem? How broken-hearted are you over their plight? What is freeing about deciding for yourself what and where it is best to be generous? What is challenging about that kind of freedom?

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### Tuesday: Matthew 6:19-21

Wherever you’re sending your money, part of your heart is there too. It also means that if you would like to change where your heart is, you need to change the direction of your money. You connect your money and your heart by pre-deciding where to give. Generous people have a plan to give. Would you consider yourself a “3S Giver” - someone who gives spontaneously, sporadically, and sparingly? Do you agree that kind of giving gets in the way of generosity? Why or why not?

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### Wednesday: Proverbs 11:23-28

The Hebrew sages saw clearly that what seems like “wisdom” to our human minds can differ dramatically from the true wisdom about life that comes from God. A path that “seems straight” to us is sometimes folly in the light of God’s values. We can find peace with our finances when we learn to give first, save second, and then consume the rest. What are some obstacles that keep you from doing this?

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### Thursday: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

We have looked at what it means to be generous over the past few weeks. We said that generosity is having a plan to give. You decide ahead of time how much to give and who to give it to. During the message, Pastor Eric said, “You give from a grateful heart or you give from a broken heart.” To whom or what are you grateful? What causes or problems break your heart? What would it look like to say “yes” to those organizations, charities, or people?

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### Friday: 1 Kings 17:8-16

This is an amazing story of faith. We tend to base our decisions on our human experience in this world. When God promises to provide for our needs supernaturally, we tend to doubt. Ask yourself: if I say I believe in God (who is by definition, supernatural), why do I hesitate to believe in his supernatural promises? Am I willing to live my faith? For example, are you willing to give to others who have less, even when your resources are less than you’d like?

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## MOVING FORWARD

Most people think if they buy enough stuff it will make them happy. But the result is that it leaves you discontent. Although it sounds counterintuitive, choosing a lifestyle of generosity over consumerism leads to peace. In order to live a lifestyle of generosity, you need to reorder your finances so you give first, save second, and then live on the rest.

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) plan, B) amount, C) finances. IIA) where, B) grateful, IIC) started. IIIA) Jerusalem, B) amount. IVA) gap, B) calling.*