



ID WEEK 6

IT IS BETTER TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE

Tonight's Session will run as follows:

7.00-7.40 Evening meal and introductions

7.50-8.50 Bible Study

8.50-9.00 Closing Prayer

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. How were money and generosity handled in your family growing up?
2. How has that shaped your view of the world and your attitude to generosity?

BIBLE STUDY (25mins)

Read Matthew 6:19-24

1. Can you think of a time where moths and vermin have destroyed treasures, or thieves have stolen them away?!
2. When Matthew uses the word "heaven" – he is doing it to replace another word and he does it a lot, take a look at:

(1) Matthew 3:2 and Mark 1:15

(2) Matthew 5:3 and Luke 6:20

So how would Mark or Luke have written Matthew 6:20?

3. What is Jesus saying in verse 21?
4. What's the relationship between our eyes and our whole bodies in verse 22-23?
5. In verse 24 we get a comparison between serving God and serving money, which is "Mammon" in the original text – can anyone who watched the video explain why Jesus might have used this word?

DISCUSSION (25mins)

Here's some discussion questions that have come from this weeks video on generosity

1. **Studies have shown that generous people are 'happier, healthier, less depressed, less anxious, have better personal growth, relationships, life expectancy and even laugh more!**

Is this true to your experience and can you think of someone who is both very generous and very miserable!?

2. **Take a look at the picture that describes the "Abundance vs Scarcity" mindset below. Look at the lists underneath and discuss:**

How do I see the world? Where am I on the scale?
How healthy is my 'eye' in the language of Jesus?

3. **"If a person gets his attitude toward money straight, it will help straighten out almost every other area in his life." — Billy Graham**

Do we believe that? Or do we just think that generosity is the "right thing to do?"

PRACTICE AND PRAY

Practice this week

- Set aside a specific amount of money, as much or as little as you want.
- Pray and ask God to give you an opportunity to bless someone.
- Keep your eyes open for the opportunity.

Additional resources:

- The Generosity Module Handbook p14-27
- Rule of Life Podcast – Generosity Part 01
- Giving is the Good Life – a book by Randy Alcorn (Chapters 1-4)

Pray – use this key idea in your prayers: **"It is better to give than to receive"** Acts 20:35

ABUNDANCE

God as Father/Provider
Yourself as his Child
Life as a gift
More than enough
Gratitude toward God
Generosity toward your neighbor

Healthy Eye

SCARCITY

No Father-Provider
You're on your own
Dangerous
Scarce resources
What you don't have
Fear
Greed

Unhealthy Eye

