

JOURNEY

OF

GENEROSITY

OCTOBER 13, 2019
PASTOR ERIC WAKELING

SURRENDER TO SACRIFICE ROMANS 12:1-2

REMEMBER THE PATH TO LIVING THE LIFE GOD DESIRES FOR US PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

- 1 » Begin with Salvation
- 2 » Grow through Discipleship
- 3 » Surrender to Sacrifice
- 4 » Serve with Stewardship
- 5 » Recognition with Rewards

WHAT DOES “SURRENDERING TO SACRIFICE” LOOK LIKE?

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.” - Romans 12:1

WHAT HINDERS OUR ABILITY TO “SURRENDER TO SACRIFICE?” JUDGES 6:25-27

“You cannot serve God and wealth.” - Matthew 6:24b

1. Idolatry is anything we place higher than God. The Old Testament was filled with altars to Baal and Asherah. The New Testament warns of the idol of mammon or money. Matthew 6:19-21, 24; 1 Timothy 6:10.
2. Idols like money are often symptoms of a deeper idol of power, control, and approval.

HOW CAN WE TAKE STEPS NOW TO “SURRENDER TO SACRIFICE?”

1. Acts of generosity are a way of proactively tearing down our idols.
2. Giving is the act of worship that realigns our hearts the most.

RESPONSE:

Prayerfully ask God: “What are the gods I have built up above You? How is money an idol in my life?
What would you have me do to tear those idols down?”

Write down some ways God is leading you to take action in response.

DIGGING DEEPER + LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION

1. Go to gospelpatrons.org and watch the full version of the short video we watched in service called “Every Village in India.” Then, discuss how you can live a life of generosity like the one displayed in the film. Spend time browsing through the other stories on this website and see how God speaks to you.
2. What kind of sacrifices have you made in your life to accomplish a goal? Any goal? How can you take steps like that with generous living?
3. How does the idol of money try to creep into your life? What are the ways that the enemy tries to get you to trust money more than God? What steps of generosity can help you tear down those idols?

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Generous Living Workshops: Financial discipleship honors God and results in living with gratitude, godly financial decision making, financial margin, and a generous heart open to how God wants to use His blessings to bless others. Take a next step today by attending one of these upcoming workshops, which address various topics providing a Biblical foundation with practical steps to equip you to be a faithful steward:

- **Raising Financially Freed-Up Kids** Sundays, October 6-27 | 11:00am | G-211
- **Planning Now for Beyond 65** Saturday, October 26 | 9:00am-Noon | W-209
- **Overflow: A Life Refreshed by Generosity** Sundays, November 3 - December 15 | 11:00am | G-211

Discover more, and RSVP online so we can save you a seat, at calvarylife.org/generous

IN RESPONSE

COMMUNION: Communion is a “meal” for believers in Jesus to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

GIVING: The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you give purposefully and joyfully, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus’ name. Discover ways to give at calvarylife.org/give

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you at the end of today’s service. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.