Life Guide
applying God's Word to life

Living a Life of Startling Generosity
November 9-11, 2024

Mark 12:38-44

38 As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, 39 and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. 40 They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

41 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

1. Why do you think Jesus took the time to watch people give their offerings? How does this perspective challenge or affirm how we think about our own giving?

2. Agree or Disagree: Jesus cares about our relationship to God more than the actual amount we give. Why or why not?

3. Agree or Disagree: Giving out of wealth is less pleasing to God than giving out of poverty. Explain.

4. How would you answer the question, "Why do I give the amount I give?" What factors influence your decision?

5. How does the concept of living forever with God change our perspective on generosity and how we use our resources in this life?

6. The sermon mentions a "life of startling generosity." What might a modern example of startling generosity look like, and what motivates such actions?

7. Agree or Disagree: Generosity is primarily about giving financially.

8. Who "modelled" Christian stewardship for you? How can adults shape a child's understanding of stewardship?

9. The sermon describes God's provision as "a pie" that He can expand. How does this view of God's resources affect how we think about sharing what we have?