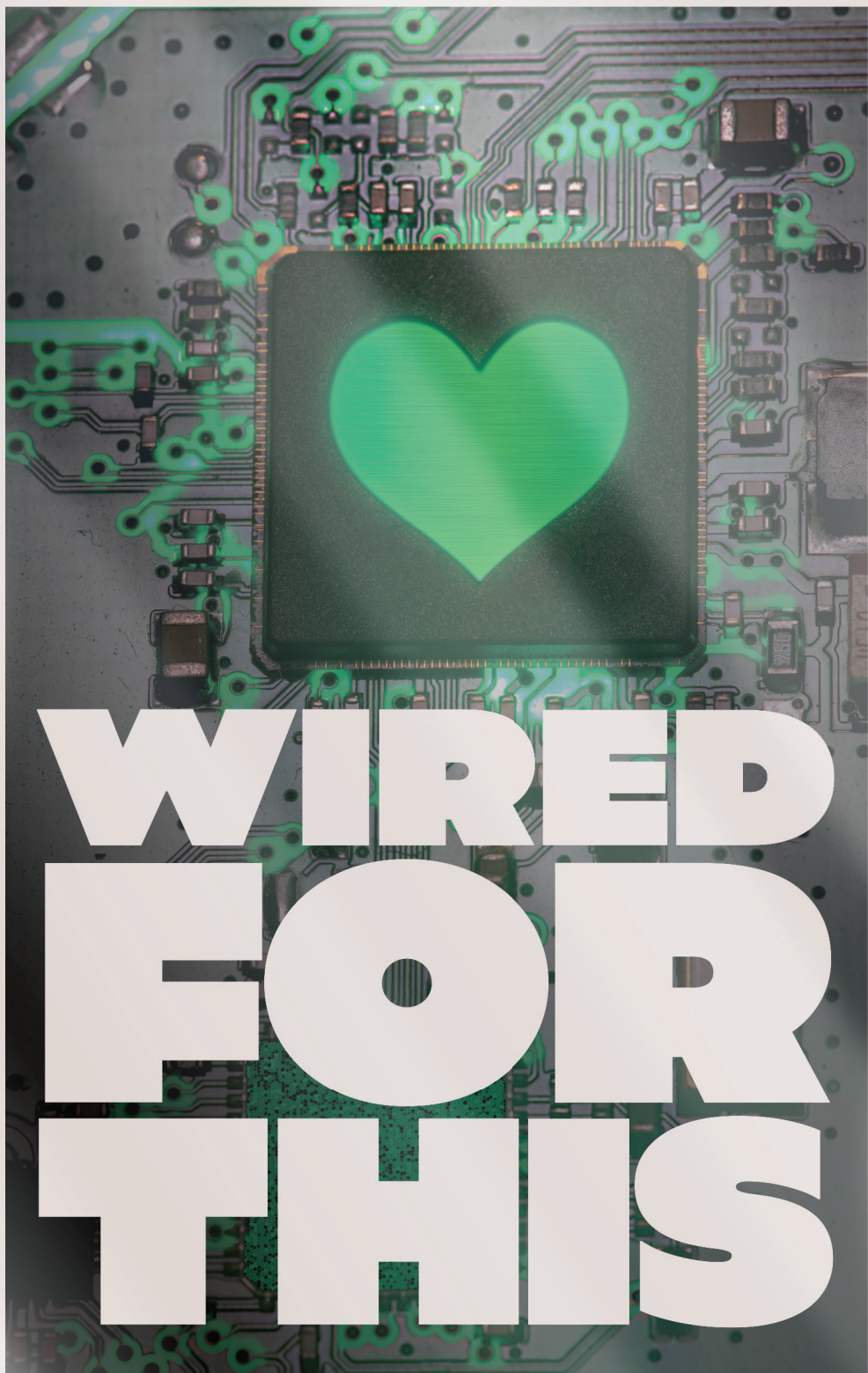




Introduction

Dear Friends,

Electricity is one of those things we count on every day. It runs unseen behind our walls, through wires and circuits, carrying current that lights our rooms, powers our appliances, and keeps our homes alive with energy. Without it, everything goes dark. With it, things come to life.

In the same way, God has wired each of us with gifts, passions, and stories that matter. There is a current of divine design running through your life. None of us are here by accident, and none of us are shaped by coincidence. What God has placed in us has the power to light up the world around us.

That is what our stewardship series, *Wired For This*, is about. Over three weeks we will explore the call to be generous, the impact collective generosity has on the community, and the surprising power already present within us. We will remind ourselves that stewardship is never only about money. It is about living with gratitude. It is about focusing on the One who made us and allowing God's Spirit to flow through us for the sake of others.

This devotional guide is here to help you reflect on that calling. My hope is that these pages will give you space to pray and imagine what it means for your life to be a gift meant to be given.

I also want to invite you to prayerfully consider what your financial pledge will be for the coming year. Just as electricity flows when a circuit is completed, the mission of our church depends on all of us making a connection. Every commitment, no matter the size, joins with others to keep our ministries alive and moving forward. Together, our generosity magnifies God's love and creates space for belonging, purpose, justice, and joy right here in Dallas.

On October 26, we will celebrate Commitment Sunday. It will be a day of joy and gratitude as we bring our pledges and give thanks for the abundance of God's grace in our lives. Thank you for the many ways you already give yourself to this community. It is a privilege to be your pastor and to be on this journey with you.

In Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitchell Boone". The signature is stylized with a large, looped 'M' and a cursive 'Boone'.

Rev. Mitchell Boone
Senior Minister

The Power Within

Week 1

Grounding Scripture:

2 Corinthians 8:1-7

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia, for during a severe ordeal of affliction their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the favor of sharing in this ministry to the saints, and not as we expected. Instead, they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

Transistor Scriptures:

Genesis 12:1-3

Romans 6:1-11

Note: Transistors magnify electrical charges, so each week, we included supplemental scripture readings that magnify the primary reading.

Electricity is energy. It flows through the world and powers our lives. It makes things go, illuminates the darkness, and helps us discover things beyond our imaginations. Without electricity, our world shuts down pretty quickly, as those of us who have experienced an unexpected power outage due to a sudden summer thunderstorm know all too well.

Our bodies are also electrical, with our brain constantly sending

out signals to all of our other organs to direct them and keep them going. At different points in history, some believed that what we now know as bioelectricity was a fluid, called a “humor,” and others simply believed it to be magic, but all recognized it as a vital force required for life to exist. Without electricity, our world and our bodies would cease to function.

The question for so many throughout time has always been, how do we harness it? How do we control electricity, this powerful energy, in a way that allows us to use it? While most of us would not take it to extremes (like Dr. Frankenstein or Doc Brown from *Back to the Future*), the quest to collect and store electricity efficiently is pertinent to our very survival. We are continuing to develop new and diverse sources of energy, and companies researching how to store that energy for long periods of time are extremely attractive to investors.

Before we go further, we need to establish a basic understanding of what we are talking about: electricity. But a basic understanding of electricity, however, requires an even more basic understanding of the atom. If you’re struggling to remember your middle school biology class, allow me to remind you.

An atom is made up of neutrons and protons that bind together to form a nucleus. The neutrons do not have a charge, but the protons do—a positive one. Then there are electrons. In stable elements, their number matches the protons and encircle the nucleus like a tiny cloud. Electrons have a negative charge. The atom is held together because the negative charge of the electrons is attracted to the positive charge of the protons. The number of protons determines what element the atom is, and the number of electrons determines how the atom will react in relationship to other atoms.

Is all of this ringing a bell, yet?

Electricity is the energy that comes when electrons are transferred from one atom to another. A great example is rubbing a balloon on a sweater. Some of the electrons from the rubber of the balloon are transferred to the fabric. The balloon atoms now have too few electrons (making them more positively charged), while the sweater fabric has too many electrons (making it negatively charged). This is what we call static electricity—energy that is stored. Static electricity is what makes your brother’s sock cling to your pants when they come out of the dryer, or your hair stand on end after a flip on a trampoline. Not only does the balloon stick to your sweater but if you touch a metal doorknob, you might experience a small electric shock. In that moment, the metal acts as a conductor between your hand and the ground, and the static electricity is released as current electricity, which gives you a shock.

Current electricity is the continuous flow of electrons from one place to another. It can only move when there’s a conductor, though. Otherwise, it’s static. Literally.

The Apostle Paul was a busy guy.¹ After his conversion experience,² he traveled, wrote, started churches, preached, raised money, argued, was arrested, and taught people about the gospel of Jesus Christ. He taught that God’s grace—revealed through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ—is life eternal for all people, and that Jesus calls us to share that good news with others. That was the power that kept him going. One of the ways we know his work is through the letters he wrote to various people and churches. These epistles, which make up the majority of the New Testament, are his way of encouraging early followers of Jesus to stick to it. Paul knew that there were a lot of other things vying for people’s attention, devotion, and energy. He knew that people would need help to keep going in their faith. So, he wrote to remind them of who they were, whose they were, and—by the power of Christ—what they were capable of doing.

He also wrote to remind them they were not alone. One thing evident in all of Paul's letters was how many different groups of faithful Jesus followers there were. In almost every Pauline epistle, whether they were written by Paul himself or merely attributed to him, he mentions other faithful Christians—or even entire Christian communities—by name, and commends them to one another.

He does this because the gospel isn't always easy. In fact, it's often difficult to live out. It's difficult to be peaceful when others seek conflict. It's difficult to be patient when those around you are infuriating. It's hard to be hopeful when there's so much to fear. It is especially difficult to be generous, to sacrifice, and to be humble when the world celebrates amassing wealth, one-upmanship, and winning at all costs. Yet when you know you're not alone, when you know others depend on you, and when you recognize that you are a part of something bigger than yourself, it somehow becomes easier.

Think of any sports team.³ There are individual positions, individual efforts, and even individual goals, but what truly keeps people going is the knowledge that other people depend on them doing their best. Whether it's a running group training for the marathon, or a recreational soccer team, being in it with other people motivates you to keep it up, even when the run is early and the workouts are hard.

When Paul writes to churches, he reminds them that they are connected to one another and that their collective efforts are essential to the success of the gospel—not because of their efforts, but because the Holy Spirit is working through all of them as members of the one body of Christ.

Paul explicitly does this when he writes to the church in Corinth. In his second letter to them (or possibly the third or fourth letter), he writes about the churches in Macedonia, letting them know what their siblings in Christ are up to. And it's pretty amazing.

The Macedonian churches have faced poverty and a “severe affliction.” Yet in spite of that, by the grace of God, they have overflowed with generosity and contributed faithfully to a “collection” Paul is gathering for the church in Jerusalem. The next chapter and a half could be considered a fundraising letter, but Paul isn’t focused only on the outcome. That’s why he isn’t simply trying to shame the church in Corinth by comparing them to the Macedonian churches. Instead, he is interested in the real transformation that happens when the grace of God ignites a response in the hearts of Christians.

This is a theological point for Paul, not simply a practical one. Yes, the church in Jerusalem needed funds, whether to attend to the literal poor in their midst (their poverty likely a consequence of their faith) or to sustain the mission of sharing the gospel (“the poor” here being a general way to refer to followers of Christ). But because the churches shared in ministry with one another,⁴ this collection was a tangible result of their faith. It was a reminder that none of them were alone because of the gift of God’s transforming grace in their lives. Thus, it was a privilege to contribute to the care of one another.

The churches in Macedonia began with their faith in God, recognized God’s grace at work in their lives, and out of joy gave themselves and give of themselves, even beyond their means, as one part of the body of Christ. Paul then reminds the church in Corinth that they too are part of the body, have received the grace of God, and can live out this kind of faith. In fact, he says, they excel in it.

But, it can be easy to plug into other sources of energy instead of the God who loves us. The Corinthians needed lots of encouragement, and we do, too. It’s easy to forget that we are connected to an endless source of power, love, hope, and forgiveness. It’s also easy to keep that energy static—only for ourselves—or to waste it on things that don’t provide lasting light.

We are recipients of God's grace. Truly, we are made for joy, faith, and connection. We are spiritually wired for generosity. We are like conductors, taking what is static and making it current—willing to move electrons around, igniting transformation in our lives and communities, and letting grace and goodness flow like energy from God to us, through the body of Christ, and into the world.

For Paul, this is what it means to be Christian, and it remains as true for us today as it was for the Macedonian and Corinthian churches. As Christians, we are wired to give not out of our abundance but out of our faith, not out of our wealth or lack thereof but out of our gratitude and joy in Jesus.

Daily Reflection Questions

Sunday

Where have you felt God's grace flow through you like energy that could not be contained?

Monday

What helps you remember that your life and gifts are not an accident, but part of God's design?

Tuesday

When has generosity, yours or another's, ignited joy in the midst of struggle?

Wednesday

In what ways do you notice God turning what feels static in your life into current that moves outward?

Thursday

How might remembering the churches of Macedonia inspire your own practice of giving?

Friday

What keeps you plugged into God as your true and endless source of power and hope?

Saturday

Where are you being invited this week to "excel in the generous undertaking" of Christ's body?

Connected For A Reason

Week 2

Grounding Scripture:

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Transistor Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Romans 15:25-29

Electricity is everywhere. It's in the sky, in the land, and in the beating of our hearts. People have known about electricity for over a thousand years, but in terms of usefulness, electricity is a relatively recent discovery in the long history of humanity. In fact, it has only been used to power homes and businesses for a little over a century.

If people wanted things like heat or light, they once had to find an on-demand energy source wherever they happened to be, whenever they happened to need it. To cook or heat their homes, people needed wood, coal, or oil, and then had to get it hot enough to combust. If those materials ran out, there was little they could do to maintain the energy's usefulness. The fire died out, and until they could once again ignite something that would burn, they were left in the dark.

The discovery of electricity changed all of that. For the first time,

people were able to collect and move energy from one place to another relatively easily and quickly. Electricity could now be produced in large quantities in one place and supplied over long distances to many others. It also worked across a wide range of devices and tools. With electricity, anyone could have energy wherever they needed it, to light and warm homes, cook food, and power countless devices.

Creating, collecting, and storing electricity for future use is a big deal these days. Ever since the invention of the capacitor⁵ and the battery,⁶ the possibilities for transporting electricity and making energy accessible have multiplied. From batteries with longer storage capacity to sustainable forms of energy production, we continue to look for ways to make energy cost less, be more accessible, and support the long-term survival of life as we know it. The continued development of these industries will enable us to diversify energy sources in ways that are more sustainable and less harmful to our planet.

This is essential because whenever we try to store energy, it naturally dissipates or discharges over time. The need for new sources and more efficient ways of collecting, storing, and managing energy is very real and very urgent. The more sources of energy we have, the greater potential output to meet demand as it continues to grow. By developing more diverse sources of energy, we also create valuable backups to our electrical systems when one source goes off the grid for any reason.

We all know what it's like to run out of energy. Whether we forgot to eat lunch, just finished a marathon, or stayed up all night with a newborn, we get tired and our energy levels drop. When that happens, like an electrical grid, we all need backups and a chance to recharge.

The first law of thermodynamics states that in a closed system, energy can neither be created nor destroyed. While that

may be true within our universe (which is a closed system even as it continues to expand!), we human beings are not closed systems. We are wired to transfer matter and energy to those around us and to the world. This is how we bring about change and sustain meaningful impact for the good of our communities.

We just need to keep the energy flowing. But, how do we do that when it's so easy for it to dissipate and we lose our spark from time to time?

The Book of Acts was written by the same author as the Gospel of Luke. Like a two-volume set, Luke and Acts tell the story of Jesus' presence and ministry. Beginning before Jesus' birth, the gospel highlights the powerful impact his life had on the world. He ministers to and cares for the least and the lost, always inviting and including those who had been excluded from the religious systems of the day. After his death, the miracle of his resurrection shows that his ministry isn't over, and the Book of Acts tells how that ministry continues through the work of the earliest church.

Acts truly picks up right where the Gospel of Luke leaves off. The disciples, minus Judas, witness Jesus ascending into heaven after being instructed to be Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth. They take care of some "disciple business" by voting to replace Judas with a man named Matthias. Then they all receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and get to work. They heal and preach to people from all walks of life. They worship and encourage each other. They share meals and take care of the poor in their midst.

It is at this point that the author gives us a glimpse of the first Christian community, and we see that no matter what happens later, they begin deeply committed to one another. The author describes this post-resurrection group of Christ followers

as being of “one heart and soul.” This isn’t a mushy, overly sentimental bond, or a romanticized way of saying they all liked each other. This community, and their connection to one another, is powerful, grounded in the deepest parts of their humanity.

They are bonded in heart and soul. It is both spiritual and practical, religious and economic. They actually live the way they believed Jesus asked them to. They actually love one another, so much so that they sell their possessions, share all things in common, and provide for any who are in need. They care for each other and for those around them. At one point we are even told they had the goodwill of all the people, and you don’t gain the goodwill of all the people by being self-righteous, judgemental, selfish, or condescending.

Here, the author is making sure we understand that Jesus’ teachings were real, not just ideals to which they paid lip service. We need to know it is possible to live like he instructed us. If Jesus overturned cultural norms while he lived, he still expected his disciples not to conform to them even though he was no longer physically present. They were to resist the idea that wealth was the only true power, that social climbing was the goal, and that success required leaving others behind. Instead, the true power—the power of the Holy Spirit—is a gift of connection and community, not one of isolation and individualism.

Now, the author is not just reporting a historic account, but composing a narrative of God’s ultimate work in the world. The author wasn’t laying out a detailed economic structure or a step-by-step process for how a community like this actually functions. Yet somehow, the early church figured it out, not because they are rooted in the best economic theory, but because they are rooted in their faith and their witness to the resurrection of Christ. They do what they do because Jesus Christ was raised to new life, and that means life for all the

people. By God's grace, we are forgiven, redeemed, and empowered to live life that is truly life, even now. However, we need one another to do this, because this gift was given to the community and must be lived out in the community.

Giving in the early church was not a private or personal affair, a collection of individuals discreetly sharing with one another. Instead, it was through the church, which helps to establish the theological foundation for giving. It is because of Jesus, who empowered the church to continue his mission, that each person contributes to the whole. When that happens, there is not a "needy person among them," because as soon as someone has a need, it is met by the others in the community.

The Christian community is made up of people who give selflessly, as Christ did. This requires sacrifice, humility, and vulnerability. Admittedly, throughout the history of the church, those values have often been betrayed, abused, and misused. The church has not always lived up to the beautiful model we glimpse in the opening chapters of Acts. Yet, God—through Christ and the Holy Spirit—is still with us, still calls us, and still empowers us to live out Jesus' message of grace in the world.

So we continue to gather together, care for one another, and give, because we know that the combined energy and resources of a faithful community will transform the world and sustain God's grace throughout it.

We are wired for one another, created to live in connection, and to practice shared responsibility. Stewardship is not about isolated generosity. It is about creating communities of radical care and shared purpose. When we live connected, our resources multiply.

Daily Reflection Questions

Sunday

Where have you experienced the gift of true community recently?

Monday

How does the example of the early church in Acts challenge the way you think about your own resources?

Tuesday

Who in your life reminds you that generosity is not just personal but communal?

Wednesday

What “backup sources” of faith or encouragement sustain you when your own energy runs low?

Thursday

How might sharing what you have—time, presence, or resources—become a testimony to the resurrection?

Friday

What does it mean for you to believe that God designed us to need each other, not to go it alone?

Saturday

Where is God inviting you this week to practice radical care and shared responsibility?

Live Wire

Week 3

Grounding Scripture:

Luke 21:1-4

He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them, for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

Transistor Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Romans 15:1-6

Thunder rumbles, and the wind swirls. Dark clouds churn overhead. You can smell the ozone in the air. Then the entire sky lights up. The air seems to sizzle. A flash and then it's gone.

Contrary to classroom lore, Benjamin Franklin didn't discover electricity with a key on a kite. Electrical properties, especially static electricity, had been studied for over a thousand years. While Franklin did propose a way to test whether lightning was electric, he wasn't the first to prove it. Thomas-François Dalibard conducted the first lightning rod experiment in France a month before Franklin's famous kite flight. Still, Franklin played a major role in advancing the study of electricity. By eliciting sparks from a key attached to a damp kite string, he not only demonstrated that lightning was electric, but also that the air itself was charged. (Despite what you might have been taught, the kite wasn't struck by a lightning bolt—that probably would have killed him.)

Lightning is a particularly powerful phenomenon. Remember the difference between static and current electricity? Static

electricity occurs when electrical energy gathers in one place. It builds up when two atoms come in contact and one is more likely to attract electrons while the other is more likely to give them up. The movement of negatively charged electrons creates a charge differential between the two atoms. If you separate the atoms, the electrons stay with the atom that is more “attractive,” leaving one item negatively charged (with more electrons) and other positively charged (with fewer electrons). The space between them becomes full of electrical potential energy, or static electricity. That energy can be stored in what is called a capacitor, an early prototype of which was invented in the 1600s. This is what Benjamin Franklin used to store the electricity he gathered from the thunderstorm.

Clouds are basically massive capacitors. As they move through the sky, the ice and water particles inside them rub against the air, exchanging electrons. Smaller particles move to the top of the cloud with a positive charge, while heavier particles move to the bottom with a negative charge. The negative charge at the bottom of the cloud induces a positive charge on the surface of the earth. Air typically acts as an insulator, but as the cloud continues to build up enormous electrical charges, the air breaks down and no longer insulates the electrical power, but conducts it. When that happens, a rapid electrical current is generated. The huge amount of static electricity discharges in the blink of an eye as a flash of light and heat. Those flashes can happen within the cloud itself (lighting it up from the inside) or between the cloud and the ground. When that happens, we see the dramatic zigzags of lightning.

A lightning strike temporarily equalizes the electrical charge in the atmosphere and within the cloud. A moment of calm, until the charge builds again.⁷

But of course, we know that one lightning strike is enough to make a big impact. With electricity, it only takes one spark, one bolt of power, or one live wire to create lasting change—to turn

over an engine, to start a fire, to light a candle, or to restart a heart.

The Gospel of Luke was written later than Mark, around the same time as Matthew (80-90 CE). The author doesn't claim to be an eyewitness to the life of Christ, but seeks to present an "orderly account" after thoroughly investigating what eyewitnesses reported about Jesus. The goal is not a dry timeline of historical moments. Instead, the author intends to present a compelling narrative that weaves together multiple aspects of God's ultimate act of grace within the world.

By tying religious tradition, current cultural awareness, and eternal spiritual realities, the author creates a rich image of God's miraculous inbreaking into human history. The result of that inbreaking is real hope and transformation for people's lives. Jesus truly was (and is) good news, especially for those who truly suffer: the poor, the outcast, the sick, the oppressed, the sinful. For the author of Luke, Jesus was God's love, grace, and forgiveness made flesh. Jesus was present with those society overlooked or dismissed as powerless—children, women, widows, and those considered unclean. Throughout the gospel, we find stories of Jesus engaging people without social standing or power. When they encounter him, they are empowered, blessed, and included.

Often, as Jesus explains himself and his actions to his followers, he surprises them with the conclusions he draws. He flips narratives on their heads like he does the tables in the temple, overturning his listeners' expectations: the despised tax collector becomes the generous host, the sacrilegious Samaritan becomes the good neighbor, the sinful woman becomes the forgiven daughter. Meanwhile the priests and scribes, the wealthy and powerful, become hypocrites, wicked tenants, and ungenerous travelers, too consumed with legality to care about humanity.

As Jesus approaches the end of his earthly ministry, he enters Jerusalem. Seeing the city, he weeps for it—the center of religious identity of God’s people—and for its foretold loss.⁸ He laments, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace!” In Hebrew, “peace” or *shalom* is more than the absence of war. It is the fullness of life, the completeness of creation, the way things are meant to be. In the gospel of Luke, when the people welcome Jesus into Jerusalem, they cry out, “Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”—echoing the angels’ proclamation of Jesus’ birth. Yet even as they cry for peace, they do not recognize the authentic peace he brings.

The scenes that follow reveal as much. The religious leaders, those tasked with helping people draw near to God, fail to see God in their midst. They challenge Jesus, test him, question his authority, and ultimately plot to kill him. He calls out their lack of true peace, in ways both meaningful and surprising, and to the very end seeks to help people recognize that the good news of the gospel is for all.

It is during this time, after his entry into Jerusalem but before his arrest, that he observes people at the temple treasury, within the Court of the Women. In this area, there were thirteen boxes, each with a large bronze funnel on top, into which people placed voluntary offerings for charitable work, temple upkeep, and ministry. You can imagine how the sound of coins clanging against the funnels would loudly advertise how much anyone gave.

In the midst of several rich people putting money into the treasury, Jesus sees a woman, specifically a poor widow, place two copper coins into the box. Two small *plinks*, barely audible in the crowded space. He immediately recognizes the significance of this moment. He isn’t focused on her appearance, her poverty, or her lack of status. He focuses on her actions, and draws our attention there as well. We see those

two coins as one small spark, illuminating the reality of how we really see ourselves.

We tend to think of ourselves as generous, as giving, as good at sharing. We point to the many things we have done or sacrificed. We tally up our financial gifts and take pride in how many zeros appear at the end of our calculations, or at least feel that it's good enough. Our contributions, we imagine, would make a satisfying clanging as they fell into the treasury boxes.

But then a poor widow—who in this culture has no inheritance rights and can only depend on the generosity of family or, failing that, strangers—gives all the money she has. She is likely often overlooked, dismissed, ignored, if not outright judged. Yet she is still connected to the community, and it is that connection which brings her here on this day. It is her bond with her people and with her God that motivates her giving. She knows who God is and what God is doing in her and for her. Voluntary gifts to the treasury were expressions of devotion and faith, and she is all in.

When we are preoccupied with measuring amounts, she is simply expressing faith. While we calculate how much will sound impressive to those around us, she is letting go of control and trusting God. Like the cloud releasing a lightning strike to the earth, she offers everything she has in a single moment.

It is truly the most generous gift, powerful not because of its size, but because of its source. This story reminds us that generosity is not determined by amount, but by intention. Our giving should flow from our deepest convictions about who God is, who we are, and who we are called to be.

Jesus knows the widows' convictions, and her gift becomes greater than all the rest.

We are each a live wire, a flash of lightning, a spark of hope and

courage, capable of igniting change. May our giving reflect the faith that God has already wired into us.

Daily Reflection Questions

Sunday

When has one small act of courage or generosity felt like a spark that lit up your life?

Monday

How does the widow's offering reframe what "enough" looks like for you?

Tuesday

Where might you be measuring your giving by size or outcome instead of by intention and faith?

Wednesday

What in your life feels charged with God's power, ready to be released for good?

Thursday

How do you hear Jesus calling you to trust God more fully with what you hold most tightly?

Friday

Where do you see God using overlooked or underestimated people to reveal the heart of generosity?

Saturday

What bold step of faith might God be asking you to take, trusting that you are already a live wire for hope?

Endnotes

1 You could say he was like the Energizer Bunny: he just kept going, and going, and going, and going...

2 Acts 9:1-19

3 Paul often uses sports analogies in his writings, especially running!

4 The Greek word for “sharing” here is *koinonia*, which refers to fellowship, partnering, and sharing the fullness of life and faith with one another. It is a theologically rich word and should not be taken lightly.

5 Invented around 1745 by Ewald Georg von Kleist, a capacitor can store static electrical energy and release it quickly, as in a flash bulb.

6 Invented around 1800 by Italian physicist Alessandro Volta, the first battery could store chemical energy and release it as electrical energy over a longer period of time.

7 This is similar to a capacitor in a camera that builds up energy and then expels it quickly and powerfully as a flash, before needing a moment to recharge.

8 Luke 19:41-44. One reason scholars believe that Luke was written after 70 CE is because of this description of the “future” destruction of the temple. While in the narrative it is still to come, the way it is described suggests that the author had already witnessed it.

Notes