

WEEK THREE

— GENEROSITY —

“Gracious Father, You gave Your Son freely, and through Him You have given us everything. Lead my heart toward generosity. I want to give joyfully and sacrificially—not out of duty but out of love. Use my finances and our church’s generosity as a testimony of Your grace, so that our community sees the gospel lived out in action. Amen.”

A story of generosity . . .

In the 1930s, Gladys Aylward—just 4’10” tall and a housemaid by trade—applied to a mission agency to serve in China. They rejected her, saying she was “unqualified”, but Gladys believed God had called her.

So she bought a one-way ticket to China with her savings and took a train across war-torn Europe and Russia. She faced danger, robbery, language barriers, and imprisonment—all before even reaching her mission.

Once there, she served under an aging missionary, later taking over an inn where she offered hospitality to mule drivers and shared Bible stories every night. She became famous locally for stopping foot-binding—a cruel Chinese custom—and was eventually appointed by the local government as a foot inspector to enforce the ban.

When war broke out with Japan, Gladys led over 100 orphaned children on foot through mountains and enemy territory to safety. She was wounded and sick, but kept going, praying constantly.

Her entire life was a testimony of radical generosity—of time, resources, and ultimately, herself.

SCAN TO
EXPERIENCE
MORE



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Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-5.

What is the difference between helping or giving to make oneself feel better versus becoming a genuinely generous person?

Which are you? Why?

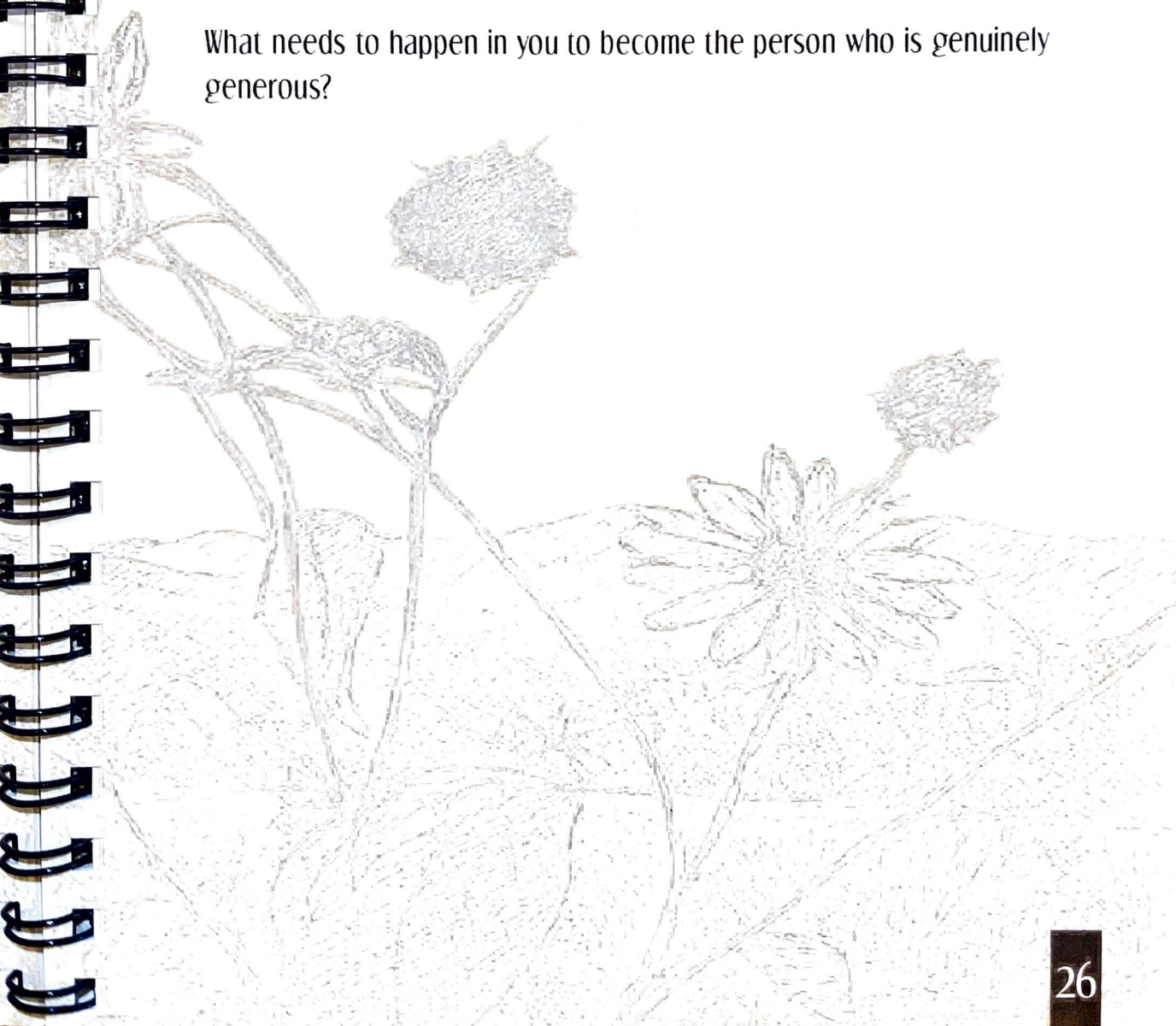
What effect could our church have on the surrounding communities if everyone was genuinely generous? Explain.

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How would that make sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ more impactful coming from us?

What needs to happen in you to become the person who is genuinely generous?



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GOING DEEPER - GENEROSITY

The Stones of Remembrance: Joshua at The Jordan - Joshua 4:1-7

After forty years in the wilderness, Israel finally stood on the brink of promise. The Jordan River was swollen and raging, but God commanded Joshua and the priests to step forward in faith. As soon as the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant placed their feet in the river, the waters stopped flowing, and the people crossed over on dry ground.

It was a miraculous moment, but God did not want His people to simply move on and forget. He told Joshua to have twelve men, one from each tribe, go back into the middle of the river and pick up a stone. They carried those heavy stones out on their shoulders and stacked them together as a memorial.

Why? Because one day children would walk past and ask, “What do these stones mean to you?” And their parents would tell them the story of God’s faithfulness, how He made a way when there was no way. These stones were not about construction. They were about consecration. They were not just a pile of rocks, but a marker of identity, memory, and mission. They testified that God’s people had crossed over from wandering to promise, from fear to faith, from surviving to thriving. And here is the truth the stones declare to us even now: A full life in Christ is one that needs to be given just as much as it is received.

Think about it—those stones weren’t carried for the men who lifted them. They weren’t even carried for the generation who crossed that day. They were carried for those yet to come. The stones were a gift forward. A LEGACY.

This is the rhythm of God’s Kingdom. He pours out His goodness to us so that His goodness can flow through us. What we receive in faith, we give back in obedience. What we take in as blessing, we release as sacrifice. The fullness of life in Christ is never meant to be hoarded. It is always meant to be handed forward.

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That is why the story of Joshua 4 matters to us today. We, too, are being called to carry our stones. Not rocks from a riverbed, but acts of faith, obedience, and generosity. Each gift we give, each sacrifice we make, each step of faith we take becomes a “stone of remembrance” declaring, “God was faithful here.”

One day, future generations will look back—our children, grandchildren, and those who don’t even know Jesus yet—and they will ask, “What do these stones mean?” And we will be able to say: These represent the moments we trusted God. These represent the sacrifices we made to see His Kingdom advance. These represent the LEGACY of faith we choose to leave behind.

Like Israel, we stand at the edge of promise. God is inviting us to step into His vision for the future—not simply for ourselves, but for those who will follow. And just as it was for them, the story of God’s faithfulness will not only be told in words—it will be built in stones.

“God, I remember Your faithfulness in my past. As I take steps of faith today, help me place my stone so future generations will know You are faithful still.”

WEEK THREE WORSHIP MUSIC PLAYLIST

