

PRAYING FOR A POSTURE OF GENEROSITY



Find a quiet place and write a prayer of generosity. Don't rush. Include the following components in your prayer and reflection time.

- **Ask God what is keeping you from bearing more fruit.** You need a word from God about your neighbors, job, marriage, children, that friend whose life is spiraling down. . . ask whatever you wish, and it will be given to you with faith (Matthew 7:7-8).
- **Ask God what in your life needs pruning.**
- **Begin with *Lord, I see...***, expressing gratitude for His abundant provision. You might even ask God to give you eyes to see His provision more fully.
- **Then include *Lord, help me*** . . . and wait for God to prompt you on how to practice biblical stewardship and increasing generosity.

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SMALL-BATCH DISCIPLEMAKING
A RHYTHM FOR TRAINING THE FEW TO REACH THE MANY
by **DAVID SUNDE**



ESTABLISHING A RHYTHM OF GENEROSITY



Here are suggestions for actions to take with a disciple, apprentice, small group, your family, or your spouse. Choose at least one suggestion to experiment with how you might trust God more in your own life over the next month.

- **Create a plan to start systematically giving to the church.** Even if you have to start with 3 percent of your income, it's a good first step. Now begin imagining and discussing a plan to increase your giving by faith. If you're giving 10 percent, ask the Lord to reveal needs and opportunities that He wants to use your gifts toward to make a difference and grow in faith.
- **Find items of value that you don't use** (e.g., winter clothing, warm blankets, an insulated water bottle) **and personally redistribute them** to individuals in need or local organizations that serve people in need (refugee services, the Salvation Army, etc.).
- **Give to someone anonymously this week.** Let the act of giving to the Lord be its own reward (i.e., leave a bag of groceries on a doorstep or a thoughtful treat on a coworker's desk, add another hour to an expired parking meter, buy a cup of coffee for a stranger in line behind you). Try this practice weekly for a month. Make it part of your prayers.
- **Take a Saturday morning and learn the name of at least one homeless person in your community.** Bring a bag of socks, granola bars, breakfast tacos, or Ramen noodles (these can be cooked at a fast-food restaurant; many have hot water available for such a use); a rain poncho; a coat; a hat; and a thermos of coffee with cups. Ask their name, if they'd like a cup of coffee, and the question What's one thing you've accomplished or are good at that most people don't know?
- **Help someone** (like a new neighbor or coworker) **pack** (or unpack) **or move.** Enlist a small group of friends as support.

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