

Sacrificial and Generous Living and Giving

- We help people discover, develop, and deploy their spiritual gifts.
- We regularly, graciously, and unapologetically teach on the importance of financial stewardship in the spiritual growth of the Christian.
- We have many examples of lifestyle choices being made on the basis of stewardship and the priority God plays in the lives of our members.

***Opening:** Describe a time you received a gift that was very meaningful to you.

Describe a time you gave a gift that was very meaningful to you.

After checking in, share how you have seen God at work since you last met.

Read the words of *Take My Life and Let it Be*

What words in this song speak most directly to you right now.

#Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

#What verse or idea in this passage spoke to you in some way?

#and* What skills and talents do you have? (don't over spiritualize this one)

When you think about your kingdom giving (at Faith and to other ministries), do you feel resentment, guilt, joy, enthusiasm, or (pick your own word)?

*What do you believe the Bible teaches about giving?

*Is this impossible, a personal goal, irrelevant, or a commitment you seek to uphold?

*When you think of our church would you describe us as sacrificial, generous and giving? Why? Why not?

How do you feel we make decisions about how to use our resources as a church? What values do you feel we use to make those decisions?

***Prayer:** Pray that the needs of those in ministry will be abundantly met – missionaries, parachurch ministries, churches, etc.

*Pray this paraphrase of 2 Corinthians 9:11

Lord, please enrich us in every way so that we can be generous on every occasion, and our generosity will result in thanksgiving to You. Amen.

*Read the Vitality Pathway prayer.

Write down one thought from each person in your group from this week's time together.

Take My Life and Let it Be

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold.

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing,
Always, only for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in endless praise.

Generosity Encouraged

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever.” ¹

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.