



PRAYER



GENEROSITY



COVENANT



BIBLE



RENEWAL



R E B U I L D I N G
L I V E S F O R J E S U S

Homegroup Study Materials



Week 3: People of Generosity



1. What subject is guaranteed to spark a debate in your home (or workplace) or social space? Sports? Politics? Religion? Other?

Read Mark 12:38-44

2. How do these two stories contrast and complement each other?
3. What does this description of the teachers of the law show about them, specifically about their hearts?
4. Why do they face such a severe punishment?
5. How might we become like the teachers of the law?
6. What was Jesus' doing at the temple (vv.41)? What catches his attention?
7. What does the description of the widow show about her, in particular about her heart?
8. Why does Jesus make a big deal about the poor widow?
9. What "small" thing have you seen or heard someone do that has made a big impact on how you give or live?
10. How do people use good deeds and/or religion to make themselves look good?
11. How does this passage affect how we should view ourselves and others?
12. What will that look like for us as a church family?
13. What should a rich person learn from this?
14. What should a poor person learn from this?
15. What may Jesus say to a poor person who decides to wait until they have more before they give?



REBUILDING
LIVES FOR JESUS



Week 3: People of Generosity



We often can sum up any talk on generosity with these three observances:

- give generously and cheerfully,
- because God generously gives us all that we need to be generous,
- generous giving will overflow in praise to God

We understand these principles and often live them out, albeit with conditions occasionally! For many of us though, a stumbling block is not in the giving, it is in the receiving.

Read this poem, Written on her [Chair's Travels Facebook page](#), Rachel Parkinson (chair of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District) said this in a very helpful piece:

I've realised that my knee-jerk reaction to spontaneous generosity is to turn it down. This week I've been practising a different way.

*'No thank you'
I say
to the torch, the blanket
the coffee
the spare room for a night.
'I don't want to put you to any bother'
I say
as I think
'This might get awkward'
And so
I deny myself
light, warmth, refreshment, shelter.
I deny you
the spontaneous joy of gifting.
I deny us
the adventure of encounter –
the chance to meet Christ as both
host and guest.
Just as well
that this time I said
'Yes please!'*

Reflect with your group on this poem, what does it say about us in terms of generosity and Christian living?



REBUILDING
LIVES FOR JESUS

