

THE LIFE OF Paul

The Essential Quality of Generosity

Sunday, November 17 | Tommy Duke
First Baptist Church of Garden City

Memory Verse:

“Since you excel in so many ways – in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us – I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.”
– 2 Corinthians 8:7

HOW DO I DEVELOP THE ESSENTIAL QUALITY OF GENEROSITY?

- **DECIDE TO _____ TO GOD.**

(Jesus) *“Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”* – Matthew 6:21

“You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.” – 2 Corinthians 8:9

- **DETERMINE TO _____ AS INCOME COMES INTO MY LIFE.**

“On the first day of each week, you should each put aside a portion of the money you have earned...”
– 1 Corinthians 16:2

“... Last year you were the first who wanted to give, and you were the first to begin doing it. Now you should finish what you started. Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. Give in proportion to what you have.” – 2 Corinthians 8:10-11

- **DEDICATE MY FINANCES TO GOD BY _____ TO HIS CHURCH.**

“... ‘You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,’ says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, ‘I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!’”
– Malachi 3:8-10

“Bring this tithe to the designated place of worship – the place the Lord your God chooses for his name to be honored... Doing this will teach you always to fear the Lord your God.”
– Deuteronomy 14:23

(Jesus) “... You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.” – Matthew 23:23

- **DISCOVER THE _____ AS GOD LEADS ME.**

“Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. Jesus called his disciples to him and said, ‘I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.’” – Mark 12:41-44

“Remember this – a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. ‘For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.’ And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.” – 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO:

- Memorize 2 Corinthians 8:7.
- Give for the first time today in an identifiable way.
- Commit (or re-commit) to the “4-month Tithe Challenge.”
- Sign up to learn more about serving in the following area(s):
 - First Impressions GC Kids GC Students
 - Worship Team Audio/Video Kitchen
 - Property/Space Outreach Other (contact me)

* Join us next Sunday, November 24, at 11:00am as we finish our *The Life of Paul* teaching series, with “The Essential Quality of Hope,” and celebrate our annual Thanksgiving Meal together after church. Invite your friends and family to join us.



Bible verses are from the New Living Translation (NLT) unless otherwise noted.

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