UNCOMMON LIFE EXPERIENCING GOD TOGETHER r

Day l Creating Margin (Costly Living)

Day 2 Daily Inventory

Day 3 Discovery Questions

> **Day 4** Why: We Give

Day 5 Where: We Give

Day 6 How: We Give

Day 7 Celebration & Debrief

6 LEVELS OF GENEROSITY:

LEVEL 1: Giving in return for something.

LEVEL 2: Giving just because.

LEVEL 3: Giving is a consistent part of your life.

LEVEL 4: Giving a percentage of your time, money, and talents to others.

LEVEL 5: Giving more on top of regular gifts to meet the needs of the people around you.

WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU ON?

SCAN THE QR CODE TO TAKE THE QUIZ!



DAY 1: Creating Margin (Costly Living)

Generous living is costly living, acknowledging the value of partnership by meeting a need in tangible, loving ways. From sharing a meal to sharing the good news, God is always inviting us to partner with him in living in such a way that reveals his generous heart for all people. This invitation is to grow in our stewardship by living out of the abundance that comes in trusting in God, rather than living out of a mindset of scarcity.

Based on what type of giver you are, follow along the following prompts and questions to explore what kind of margin you will create. Invite your family or a trusted friend to explore these together!

DAY 1: Creating Margin (Costly Obedience)

LIMITATIONS: Start by identifying your current limitations that keep you from making margin. Is it debt, activity, schedule and time, etc.? Prayerfully consider from your time, money, and talent budget, and what it would take to create margin there.

MARGIN: Understanding your limits will help you know what you have to work with. A few examples of making margin would look like:

Dedicating tithing as an act of trusting and thanking God
Being ready to be generous in relational networks (buying coffee for a stranger, tipping more than usual, etc.)
Researching a local organization or ministry to give to and support financially or through volunteering

RECOMMENDED BASELINE PRACTICE: This is where you're starting in your giving and committed to growing from. For example, commit to giving away a percentage of your income.

If you're new to this practice, identify the percentage you currently give and commit to an increasing percentage goal that challenges your faith, focusing on your local church.

NEXT STEPS: What's a next step you can take to challenge your margin for generous living, and who can you invite to support you with accountability and encouragement along the way?

DAY 2: Daily Inventory

Daily questions are a way to track your patterns, rhythms, and habits of growing in generous living. With a daily inventory, think of someone you can keep accountable with (a daily question partner), or for a regular check-in. If you're new to the daily inventory practice, start simple, grab a physical or digital journal, and then progress and adjust as you go!

Remember, the daily inventory is to serve you in growing in generosity, rather than it pressuring you to give.

DAY 2: Daily Inventory

DAILY QUESTIONS

PATTERNS:

What patterns and rhythms of giving do I currently practice? Where am I spending most of my money and time? What does that reveal? What do I need to do differently to be ready to live generously tomorrow?

OPPORTUNITIES:

How and with whom did I practice generosity with today? How do I notice myself growing in generosity? How was I able to give in a meaningful, tangible way today?

GRATITUDE:

What am I learning about generous living in my specific context? What's a story of generosity I have to share? How is God's heart of generosity being revealed to me today?

DAY 3: Discovery Questions (DBS)

Around here at Canyon Ridge, we discover, do, and share what God says together! Today, let's dive in deeper around a story of generous living in Scripture and take a next step, doing what God says.

Gather your family or friends to take a closer look at the story of ______ and explore what your next step (an "I will..." statement around generosity) might be!

DAY 4: Why We Give

Generosity is one of the easiest ways to identify if somebody is a follower of Jesus. The earliest disciples modeled what it means to live generous lives by sharing everything they had and giving to those in need.

But why is generosity so important for followers of Jesus?

DAY 4: Why We Give

In Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus says, "Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."

As followers of Jesus, the answer to "Why we give?" is best answered by looking at whose kingdom you are building with your generosity. When you give your time, money, and talents in Jesus' name, you are placing your trust, security, and identity in his kingdom instead of your own.

In John 13:35, Jesus says, "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." A few chapters later, in John 15:13, he says, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." Talk about generosity!

When you live a generous life, your life and actions are not just for yourself. They are building up the kingdom and pointing people in the direction of Jesus!

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Take a look at the parable Jesus shares in Matthew 25:31-40. This story shows how you invest in the Kingdom of Heaven when you prioritize people over your property and possessions. Who are the hungry, thirsty, sick, naked, imprisoned people around you? Set aside some time to think of how you can invest in those people around you today.

DAY 5: Where We Give

When it comes to giving, it's easy to ask, "why?" Why should I be generous with my time, talents, or resources? The answer, of course, is that we want to put money in its right place and help build the Kingdom of Heaven.

So now the question is, "where should we give?" Together!

DAY 6: How We Give

In theory, being a generous person is easy. You just give away your money and time to whoever needs it, right? In reality, though, being generous can be a lot harder.

Now that you know the "why" and "where" of generosity, let's look at some simple places to start making giving more a part of our lives.

DAY 6: How We Give

Here are three simple ways to increase your generosity and make giving back a bigger part of your life.

- Find somebody you can partner with to give more of your time by volunteering for a cause you care about. Check out canyonridge.org/missions for a list of life-bringing ministries in Las Vegas.
- 2. Pay it forward do something nice for someone without expecting anything in return. Look back at Day 1 to find ways to create some margin in your life to help the people around you when they need it most.
- 3. Use the margin to are discovering to donate to charities that are important to you. Find a highly accountable organization with a plurality of leadership making an impact in the name of Jesus and set up a recurring gift to help support their everyday mission. Head over to canyonridge.org/give for an easy place to start.

It's not always easy to be generous, but it's always worth it. When we give of ourselves – our time, money, or talents – we make the world a better place. And when we do it with others, we create bonds of friendship and community that can last for years. So find somebody to partner with you and commit to being more generous this year.

Join in a community that's committing to live a more generous life by texting "CHALLENGE" to 94000 today!

DAY 7: Celebration & Debrief

Congrats! You made it through the 1-week generosity challenge, hopefully picking up new healthy habits along the way! Now's a great time to retake the quiz and see where you are now and what's ahead through guided celebration and debrief.

Here are some questions in a helpful and simple framework to help you and the people around you do just that!

DAY 7: Celebration & Debrief

The W.I.N.

W - What went WELL?

I - What do I want to IMPROVE?

N - What will I do differently NEXT time?

DAY 5: Where We Give

The book of Acts is full of stories that show how much of an impact can be made when followers of Jesus partner together and live generous lives together. When we live generously together, God gets the credit, not any single individual.

Giving together is also encouraging! When we see others living a generous life, it motivates us to do the same. Giving together allows us to focus on joining in on what God is up to rather than our own agenda. We can set aside our wants and needs to serve others. Finally, generosity begets generosity. When we give together, we create an atmosphere of generosity that is contagious to the people in our lives.

So next time you are considering where to give, remember that together we can achieve so much more. By working together, we can put money in its right place and build the Kingdom of Heaven.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Find somebody in your life and put your resources together to give a gift bigger than either of you could do alone. Look for a place that will use that gift to make a difference for the Kingdom of Heaven!

DAY 3: Discovery Questions (DBS)

Gather around a table with your family, friends, or neighbors to explore God's Word together and prayerfully encourage one another throughout the week following this DBS!

CONNECT

To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

What are you thankful for? What is causing stress for our neighbors and people around us? What can we as individuals or as a group do to help?

DISCOVER WHAT GOD IS SAYING

Read and retell the Bible story. What does this passage say about God, Jesusfri, or His plan? What does this passage say about people in general?

DO WHAT GOD IS SAYING

What in me needs to change to better DO what God is showing me today? How will you respond to/obey this passage in a tangible, even costly way in the next 48-72 hours?

SHARE WHAT GOD IS SAYING

Pray together! Who in your life needs to hear this story of generosity?