Cryptic Currency - Week 3

Main Idea

If we want to live up to God's potential for us as individuals and a church, we need to become people of generosity.

Starter

In the last week, what is the moment you are most grateful for?

Discuss

In your life, how has someone been generous with their resources toward you? How did this generosity impact you?

Scripture

Divide your group in two and assign a different passage to each group: <u>2 Corinthians 8:1-15</u> and <u>2 Corinthians 9:1-15</u>. Then, discuss:

- What do these passages show you about God and what He wants for your life?
- What principles do you see in this passage related to how God wants us to handle our money?
- What is most encouraging or challenging to you as you read this passage?

Pick someone in your group to give a short recap of your discussion. Then, discuss the main Biblical principles from these passages.

- Which of the following principles from these passages are easiest for you to believe? Which ones do you need to be reminded of the most? Why?
 - o Our circumstances don't dictate our attitude or generosity.
 - o There is a gift that comes from a lifestyle of generosity.
 - o There is a correlation between the love you have for God and the generosity you bring to His Church.
 - o When it comes to generosity (or life); intention does not equal completion.
 - o Giving is measured in attitude and effort, not in total dollars.
 - o When it comes to stewarding resources, strong accountability is expected.
 - o Generous giving in response to the gospel points the world back to God's goodness.

Apply

Have everyone spend a few minutes in prayer and reflect on the following question:

- 1. How could your attitude and actions better reflect the generosity God has shown you in Jesus Christ?
- 2. Then, give everyone a minute to share what God put on your heart. Pray for each other as the Holy Spirit leads.

^{*}Encourage your group to engage in a dinner table conversation this week about generosity with the guide on the following page.

Dinner Table Conversation Guide:

- 1. Around the dinner table this week or when you're riding around in the car... have a conversation as a family around these principles of a generous life (from 2 Corinthians 8-9).
 - Our circumstances don't dictate our attitude or generosity.
 - There is a gift that comes from a lifestyle of generosity.
 - There is a correlation between the love you have for God and the generosity you bring to His Church.
 - When it comes to generosity (or life); intention does not equal completion.
 - Giving is measured in attitude and effort, not in total dollars.
 - When it comes to stewarding resources, strong accountability is expected.
 - Generous giving in response to the gospel points the world back to God's goodness.
- 2. Then, discuss: Which are the ones that are the easiest to believe?
 - Which are the ones you need to be reminded of the most?
 - What is a next step we could take as a family to respond generously to the gracious gift God has given us in Jesus? How could we use our time, talent, and treasure to be more generous in God's Kingdom?

If your group or family needs help to grow in stewardship, here are some great resources Hope provides:

- Financial Coaching: Personalized coaching to help you from wherever you are starting
- Financial Foundations: Online videos to equip you build a more biblical foundation of stewardship.