



From the Overflow  
November 10 | Group Guide

### **Before group...**

For optimal group discussion, take a few moments to look over this discussion guide prior to your group meeting. Then, choose a few of the questions below to send to your group members. Ask them to come prepared to share their thoughts on them.

You may also want to alert those in your group about the prayer element in each of these group guides.

### **Introduction and questions (15 minutes)**

Throughout this sermon series, we're taking a look at what the Bible says about money, generosity, and our stewardship of the resources God has gifted to us.

To that end, we'll be reading Scripture, praying together, sharing about the theme of generosity, and more.

Start by watching the [Week 1 From the Overflow discussion video](#).

As we begin this series, take a moment to pray and then have your group reflect on their personal practice of generosity and how it relates to the life of the church. Take some time to prayerfully consider these questions with your group.

- How do you experience generosity in your daily life?
- What does generosity mean to you?
- How are you currently honoring God with your personal finances?
- What are some specific ways you see financial generosity shaping the ministry of the church?

**Read Scripture (10 minutes).**

Read 2 Samuel 24:1-25 and Exodus 36:1-7 together.

**Talk about these questions (20 minutes).**

- Take some time to reflect on your key takeaways from the sermon. What stood out the most to you? What questions do you have? What was stirred in you as you listened?
- In his sermon, Dan quoted Howard Dayton who said, "Giving is not God's way of raising money; giving is God's way of raising disciples." Do you think there is a connection between one's giving and one's discipleship? Explain.
- If someone were to assess your discipleship to Jesus based on your giving, what do you think that your giving would reveal about your priorities?
- Imagine what it would look like today for a church leader to say what was conveyed to Moses in Exodus 36:4-5: "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done." What would need to be true for that to be the case in our community?

- In his sermon, Dan mentioned three steps for us: (1) Those who aren't giving anything, begin giving; (2) Those who are giving, begin tithing; and (3) Those who are tithing, grow in generosity. Consider which category you fall into. Where might God be inviting you to grow in your generosity?

## 1 Timothy 6:6-15 Prayer Practice (20 minutes)

Each week through our *From the Overflow* series, we'll take some time to pray through a portion of Scripture. We'll focus on a specific Scripture through prayer, inviting the group to pray from the passage. This week's Scripture is 1 Timothy 6:6-15.

As you begin, take a moment to be still and quiet before the Lord. Invite the group to settle, close their eyes, and invite the Holy Spirit to lead your prayer time.

After 2-3 minutes of silence, begin by reading 1 Timothy 6:6-8.

### Read:

*6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.*

### Say:

Let's take a few moments now to pray aloud in response to this passage. How do you want to thank God for what he's given to you? How might we want to pray specifically for contentment? Let's do that aloud now.

*(Leave space for praying aloud in response to these verses.)*

Lord, we turn our attention to 1 Timothy 6:9-10

### Read:

*9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

**Say:**

Let's take a few moments now to pray aloud in response to this portion of the passage. What might we want to confess before the Lord about the temptations and traps we've fallen into regarding money and materialism? Where have we wandered from the faith and pierced ourselves with many griefs? Let's pray for those things now.

*(Leave space for praying aloud in response to these verses.)*

Lord, we turn our attention to 1 Timothy 6:11-12

**Read:**

*11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

**Say:**

Let's take a few moments now to pray aloud in response to this passage. Ask the Lord for courage to pursue these things, to fight the good fight, and take hold of the eternal life that is yours. Pray for any specific place where you need help in this pursuit.

*(Leave space for praying aloud in response to these verses.)*

Lord, we turn our attention to 1 Timothy 6:13-16

**Read:**

*13 In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you 14 to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.*

**Say:**

Let's take a few moments now to pray aloud in response to this passage. Take time to thank Jesus for his sovereignty over your life. Spend time giving him honor for who he is.

*(Leave space for praying aloud in response to these verses.)*

**Read this generosity liturgy together (2-3 minutes)**

Holy Father,

There is nothing I have that You have not given me.

All I have and am belong to You,

bought with the blood of Jesus.

To spend everything on myself, and to give without sacrifice, is the way of the world that You cannot abide.

But generosity is the way of those who call Christ their Lord;

who love Him with free hearts and serve Him with renewed minds. Who withstand the delusion of riches that chokes the Word;

whose hearts are in Your kingdom and not in the systems of the world.

I am determined to increase in generosity until it can be said that there is no needy person among us.

I am determined to be trustworthy with such a little thing as money that You may trust me with true riches.

Above all, I am determined to be generous because You, Father, are generous.

It is the delight of Your daughters and sons to share Your traits, and to show what You are like to the world.

Amen.

**Finish with prayer requests and pray for one another (10 minutes).**

Break into groups of 3-4 and share with that smaller group any prayer requests that you may have. Then, take turns praying for one another, over the things that each person shared.

Once finished, have everyone come back together to finish your group time with logistics and any important information members of the group need to know.