

The Generous Heart

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL

To be encouraged & reminded to put God first in all things in obedience, specifically in financial generosity.

ICE BREAKER

The phrase “like riding a bike,” is in reference to the fact that some things, even if you haven’t done them in a while, aren’t easily forgotten. Has anyone in your Life Group recently experienced this? Share together.

TEXT

Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Deuteronomy 14:22-29

²² “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. ²³ And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. ²⁴ And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, ²⁵ then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses ²⁶ and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.

(turn to Deuteronomy 14 in an ESV bible to continue reading verses 27-29)

MESSAGE OUTLINE

This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: God is always teaching his people to put him first.

Key Question: How does the tithe teach us to put God first?

1. The tithe teaches us priority. (v. 22)
2. The tithe teaches us perspective. (vv. 23-26)
3. The tithe teaches us provision. (vv. 27-29)

GENEROUS HEART WEEK 2

DISCUSSION

- Deuteronomy 14:22-29 is one of the places in Scripture that shows God instructing Israel to tithe as an act of worship. What is your initial response or experience with the concept of tithing?
- The word “tithe” simply means “tenth.” The expectation was that at least the first tenth of everything that came into a household, would be submitted back to God as He directed. How does tithing help develop the “muscle memory” of placing God first? See Proverbs 3:9 for continued wisdom.
- God’s command to tithe comes with the expectation of provision and celebration. What perspectives on tithing and giving do you need to embrace? Where is your perspective on tithing and giving warped or mistaken?
- Verses 27-29 reveal God’s expectation of provision both for us and through us. How have you seen God provide for you? In what way does your giving reflect faith and dependence on God? In what ways do you see your giving tangibly supporting those in full-time ministry as well as the needs of the poor, widows, orphans, etc.
- Do you tithe, or give regularly? Why or why not? What has this study of Scripture challenged or encouraged you to apply?

LIFE APPLICATION

This week’s passage should remind us of God’s faithfulness to us, as well as our expectation of faithfulness back to Him. In 1 Corinthians 16, the Apostle Paul encourages the saints to “put something aside” to advance the ministry of Christ on the first day of every week. What if your Life Group decided to do that toward a specific aim like your campus benevolence fund, a crisis pregnancy center, a family in need in your neighborhood. Get creative and experience the joy of obedient generosity.

Jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


