

GRATEFUL LIFE GROUP LESSON WEEK 5 TURNING GRATITUDE INTO GENEROSITY

Introduction: Our big idea is to see how gratitude multiplies its impact to glorify God and change our lives and the lives of others. The wisemen are our example; they went beyond thanking God for His promise to bringing their gifts of worship, to lay at His feet. **Key verse:** *“Now he who supplies the seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.” (2 Corinthians 9:10 NIV)*

1. Can you give an example where your life became better because someone was radically generous to you?
2. What is an example of when blessings and prosperity made one person generous and another person greedy?
3. Discuss how taking time to really think about the motive of your giving can make a difference. We talked about the fact that it is not the size or amount of a gift that makes it special but the size of the love expressed by the giver that makes a difference. Can you articulate what you want your gifts to God and people to say this year?
4. How has seizing opportunities to give, helped you better understand your purpose and calling in life?
5. Has God ever called you to “second mile giving,” exceeding expectations and giving even more than you thought you could afford? Can you give an example of an area you might be called now or soon to give by faith, trusting God to be the source of that gift?
6. In reflecting how God may have wanted to use this series in your life, which of the following shift in your attitude, that could produce a change in your atmosphere, would you highlight?
 - a. I’m learning to think more about how much good others have given me, more than what I deserve or expected in the relationship.
 - b. I’m focusing more time on what I can give thanks for about people and my circumstances, than what I’m unhappy with in people and my circumstances.
 - c. I am seeing that what I have is more than I deserve and am so thankful, rather than seeing what I don’t have as what I need to be happy.
 - d. I am learning how to be thankful when others are blessed not just when I am blessed.
 - e. I am learning not just to express gratitude after a prayer has been answered but, in faith, thanking God for what He’s promised to do even before I have seen it.
 - f. I am seeing other people around me blessed because of my gratitude and I am being more generous and encouraging to others.
 - g. I have less fear because I’ve been magnifying God’s promises more than what makes me feel anxious.

h. As my gratitude has led me to think and care more about how others are being helped, I've automatically seen some blessings and answers to prayer come to my life.