



IT'S COMPLICATED (Part 3) - "A Generative Generosity"

Luke 16:10-13 NIV

10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

13 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Luke 12:29-34 NIV

29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. 31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. 32 Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Key Points

- Generativity is the capacity for our generosity to create something beyond what was given.
- The point of being faithful in the little things is faithfulness.
- Faithfulness is an expression of our trust, not a means to an end.
- Financial congruence is stewarding our money in a way that allows us to contribute to and create the kinds of things that honor God, reflect His image, and demonstrate His love.
- Faith is the activity of a "trust economy."
- We can have abundance and not be driven by what we have. On the flip side, we can have little and not be driven by what we would love.
- Faith is trust that takes a step. It requires an action—an activity in our actual lived life.
- Giving tells your heart where to go.

READ

Open your time together by reading the Scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- Read Luke 16:10-13. The passage emphasizes that we cannot serve both God and money. How do you understand the relationship between one's financial priorities and one's spiritual life? What strategies ensure that our financial decisions align with our faith and values?
- Read Luke 12:29-34. The passage mentions that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." How does this concept relate to the way we allocate our resources and prioritize our values? What steps can individuals take to align their treasures with their spiritual beliefs and priorities?

REFLECT

- What is generativity, and how does it relate to generosity?
- What does the notion of faith as the "activity of a trust economy" mean to you, and how does it apply to your life?
- Have you ever experienced a situation where you had abundance but weren't driven by it, or where you had little and were not driven by your desires?
- Can you identify moments in your life where practicing faithfulness in small, seemingly insignificant matters has led to larger positive outcomes?

RESPOND

- In what ways have you found faithfulness in the little things to be significant in your life?
- Reflect on your own experiences with giving. How has it directed your heart and influenced your decisions?
- How can you contribute to and create things that honor your own values and principles?

PRAY

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests collectively or by breaking into prayer partners.