

Sunday, July 21, 2019 - "Get Fit - Week 4 - Generosity" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Matthew 6:19-34, Jonah 2:8, 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Generosity is so much more than money...Jesus was the model for radical generosity
- What does it look like to be radically generous with you time, money, expertise, home/family?
- The passage says "do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth..."
- By nature we are selfish and greedy people
 - "We deserve more"
 - We are consumers → never satisfied (3,000 desire inducing messages per day)
 - We can make treasures out of things that don't have anything to do with God
- The question becomes, "What do you treasure? What do you give your heart to?"
- v21: For where your treasure is there your heart will be also
 - We can sometimes elevate something/someone to a place it was never meant to be
 - Talking about idols...and the place they take in our hearts
 - We can even get attached to something that God has given us (Jonah 2:8)
- **"Generosity is an intentional way of peeling back our fingers from our grip on idols" - Doug Kempton**
- What are idols? (where are eyes and attention are focused)
 - 1) What are you constantly thinking about/what keeps pulling you in?
 - 2) What are you spending money on?
 - It's all about our connection (clinging) to what God has given us (it's not bad to be wealthy and to have stuff it's about how we connected to that stuff)
- We experience His love, grace, and provision when we are radically generous...God asks us to give to him so we can find out who our provider is
- 3 Giving scenarios: 1) I'm not going to give because I don't have enough 2) I'll give 10% and God will give/bless me enough to achieve my goals 3) God you are my provider and I will give because I want more of you
- God wants to show us that He is our provider
 - That's why he asked his people for 10% of their first fruits
 - every 7 years he told them not to plant anything (their crops were their survival)
 - radical generosity doesn't make sense
- "Generosity is not about what God wants from you but about what God has for you" - Generous Church
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
 - Relationship between **experiencing God** and **generosity**
 - They both lead to the other, a catalytic relationship
- Jesus said: If you want to find your life, you will have to lose it for my sake
- We are called to be radically generous to experience more of God in our lives

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. In your own words, how would you describe God's love for you? Not how you think it should be but how you actually think it is?
2. Give an example of a time when God's love changed you?
3. How have you struggled to gain value with God or with others by your success/behavior?
4. What would it look like for you to allow God's love to change you?
5. What is something you have been exposed to for a long time that has changed you in a negative way? How is God calling you to let go of that?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Daniel 6 Tues: Daniel 7 Wed: Daniel 8 Thurs: Daniel 9 Fri: Daniel 10

Songs from the weekend: [In Jesus' Name - Israel Houghton] - [Do It Again - Elevation Worship] - [Reckless Love - Cory Asbury] - [Alpha & Omega - Israel Houghton]