

**Series: GENEROUS**

**Title: The Blessed Life**

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**Date: September 28-29, 2019**

1. Who is one person who has been generous to you? How has their generosity influenced your life?
2. Generosity is defined as, "*a readiness to give more than is strictly necessary or expected*". Looking at 2 Corinthians 8:9, how does the generosity of Jesus go even farther?
3. What kind(s) of poverty did Jesus experience?
4. What theme stands out to you from the following verses: Philippians 2:5, Ephesians 5:2 and 2 Corinthians 8:9?
5. Read Luke 12:13-21 and describe what happens when generosity is missing in our lives.
6. From Acts 9:36-43, why did everyone love Dorcas so much? These days who is the Gazelle of Cornwall known by their serving and serving and serving? Maybe you could tell them???
7. What is your group's plan to serve this fall?
8. There's always a cost to follow Jesus. In the earliest days of the church Stephen (Acts 7:59-60) and James (Acts 12:2) were martyred for their faith. Why do you think God raised Dorcas from the dead when he didn't raise such prominent leaders? What does that tell us about how God sees smaller ministries that aren't so public?
9. Jesus' words, "that is more blessed to give than receive" seem ludicrous to many people (Acts 20:35). How would you say they actually make sense?
10. Liz Bohannon in her book Beginner's Pluck, invites us to "Dream Small". How does dreaming small guide us into a life of generosity? Can you think of a small dream you could begin to make a reality?
11. What's off about the prosperity gospel that says when you give to God He's obligated to give to you?
12. How do we keep generosity from being contaminated by greed?
13. What else stood out to you from this week's message?

"When you were born you were crying and everyone else was smiling. Live your life so at the end, you're the one who is smiling and everyone else is crying." Ralph Waldo Emerson