Week 1 | LEADER GUIDE

All In | A Generous Host

TALKING ABOUT GENEROSITY IN SMALL GROUP

Generosity is important to discuss within your small group because generosity is essential in our discipleship to Jesus. Discussing generosity with your group will deepen your connection with each other, and deepen your relationship with God.

It will be important throughout the All-In series for leaders to **begin each week in prayer** (on your own or with your group), inviting God to shape your heart and guide the conversation.

It will also be important to **ground the discussion in Scripture**. This is why our discussion section is focused on a passage of scripture rather than the weekend teaching. Most of the passages in this series are connected to the weekend teaching, but not all of them. With a topic like generosity, the conversation could go in many directions. There might have been something said on the weekend that didn't sit right with someone. Someone in your group might have a past experience they want to bring up or an issue with how the church has traditionally handled or talked about money. Those conversations are important. Listen intently and be curious if people take the conversation elsewhere, but remember your goal as a leader is to ground the discussion in Scripture. Help people make connections between their experiences (even their frustrations) and what God's Word says.

Throughout this series: encourage reflection on how God's generosity inspires us to grow as disciples and consider what might hinder a generous heart. Share stories of generosity that demonstrate how giving can transform both the giver and the recipient. Discuss practical ways to live out generosity as a reflection of spiritual growth and commitment to others (we'll give you some ideas in the "Practice" section, but we encourage you to help people determine their 'next step' based on the discussion as well).

Always **close your group time in prayer**, taking prayer requests and also asking for God's guidance in living generously as a hallmark of faithful discipleship.

March 2 Parent Event: All In Family Equip

As you prepare to go all-in with your family, you're invited to the "All In Family Equip" where you'll gain practical tools to disciple your children in the area of generosity. You'll receive valuable resources and guidance for creating impactful family conversations that can transform your hearts and home. Ice cream will be provided!

Resources:

<u>All-In Guidebook</u>: Everyone will get these the first weekend during service. There will be extras available for leaders to get at the Next Steps area to give to people who miss service.

What's in the guidebook? Everything you need to know about the All-In series and initiative. There are parent resources. The small group content is in there. There is a copy of the commitment card. It would be wise to walk through the Guidebook on your own before your first group, because someone in your group probably will. If you have questions, reach out to your network leader, Small Groups Pastor or Campus Pastor. If you think it's best to walk through the book together as a group, then absolutely do so.

Other Resources

Generosity Discipleship Tool

<u>Right Now Media</u> has several generosity studies. We highly recommend: "Practicing the Way: Generosity Practice." Quite a bit of the content for this series comes from that material.

<u>Freed Up</u> (\$99) is a Biblically-based financial management tool. If you think you or someone in your group could use a tool like this, we recommend it. There is a cost to get the notebook and app.

GATHER

- Share about a time when you experienced the joy of generosity (either as the giver or receiver).
- What does generosity mean to you?
- How do you see generosity as a part of your faith journey?

DISCUSS

Did anything stand out from this week's teaching that you'd like to discuss?

Read Matthew 6|25-34 aloud

- 1. What stands out to you in this scripture?
- 2. Why do you think Jesus taught like this?
- 3. What fears or desires keep you from being more generous?
- 4. How would your life be different if you were free of the fear of not having enough?
- 5. What is one act of generosity you can do this week that would counter the fear you may carry?

PRACTICE

Do a spontaneous act of generosity.

Here are a few ideas to spark your imagination:

- Buy someone in line behind you coffee or lunch.
- Anonymously pay for someone's meal.
- Drop off groceries or a gift to someone you know is in need.
- Send cash digitally to help a friend with medical bills or expenses they can't currently pay.

PRAY

How can we be praying for one another?