

Generosity

Making someone's day
by giving something away.

Get wrapped up in
what matters most.

WEEK
2

Read: Matthew 6:21

DAY 1

Whenever you go to the doctor, what is one of the first things she checks out? Your heart! It's important to hear a regular, clear heartbeat. But did you know that your heart could be in pretty bad shape even if it sounds fine to the doctor? And it has nothing to do with the way it sounds.

The condition of your heart tells you what you value or treasure. If you're focused on yourself, what you want, getting more stuff, or holding too tightly onto what you already have, that's what you value. That's your treasure. But if you are generous, if you give to others in need, and look for ways to help, then you put others first, and THAT'S what you value.

If someone did a heart check on you right now, what would they find? Are you generous and willing to share? Do people around you know that if they asked you for something, you would gladly give to them? If not, why? Write down a time recently when you chose not to be generous. Think about why you weren't and what might have happened had you chosen generosity instead.

Thank God for reminding you to check the condition of your heart and continue to choose generosity.

Read: 1 Timothy 6:18-19

DAY 2

Want to know how to be rich? Well, the first step is to understand God's definition of "rich." Rich isn't about getting; it's about giving. Being rich is about understanding that EVERYTHING you have comes from God. It's realizing that you wouldn't have anything apart from Him. God wants to see how you take care of what He's given you.

To be rich, you have to be willing to give things away. A truly rich person understands that what's "mine" is really NOT mine. Everything ultimately belongs to God and He's hoping that we'll choose to be generous with what He's shared with us.

Challenge yourself to memorize this whole passage. (1 Timothy 6:18-19) Write each word of the verse on index cards. Make a path out of the index cards in the hallway and practice hopping or jumping from one card to the next, repeating the verse until you have it memorized. Or you could write each word of the verse on a card, shuffle them, and then work to put them in order and recite the verse. Repeat until you've memorized the verse.

Ask God to help you be rich in good deeds and willing to share.



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Read: 1 Chronicles 29:14

DAY 3

God made you. You would not exist apart from Him. And everything that you can touch, see, taste, or smell was made by Him. Everything comes from God. Every single thing. From the house you live in, to the bed you sleep in, to the food on your table, and the clothes on your back. Every piece of furniture, every toy on every shelf, even the shelf itself comes from God.

So when you choose to be generous, you are really showing how much you trust God. When you give things away, you are trusting that God will provide for you in the future. Getting wrapped up in what matters most means that instead of focusing on keeping or holding on to all the things that were once GIVEN to you, you choose to be generous instead.

Grab a piece of paper and write this phrase on the center of the page: "Everything comes from God." Around those words, draw pictures of some of the things God has given you. Then spend some time thanking Him.

Look for ways to get wrapped up in what matters most this week.

Read: Romans 11:35-36

DAY 4

Have you ever given anything to God? I bet you're wondering how that would even be possible. After all, you can't see God or walk right up to Him. How could anyone give to Him anyway?

Well, the truth is, we will never ever be able to repay Him for all He's done for us. He created us. He sent His only Son to make a way for us to have a relationship with Him. He loves us unconditionally with a love that NEVER changes. We could never give enough back to God in a way that would ever come close to what He's done for us.

But that doesn't mean we shouldn't TRY to give to God. When you give part of what's been given to you BACK to God, you show Him that you trust Him to provide for you in the future. Many of us do this through giving our offerings at church.

Check out your give jar from last week. Have you collected anything yet? If so, talk to your Mom or Dad about taking that money to church the next time you go. When you give back to God through your church, you allow other people to hear about Jesus and how much God loves them. That's one BIG way to give back to God.

Know that God loves it when we choose to give generously to Him.

