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Dear Church Family,

One of the most beautiful signs of a growing disciple of Jesus is a life shaped by generosity. Not just in what we give, but in how we live—open-hearted, open-handed, and joyfully responsive to the grace we've received in Christ.

That's why we're taking three weeks to explore The Generous Life. This series is not about pressure or guilt. It's not about numbers or obligations. It's about grace. Our aim is to reflect on the generosity of God, and to allow His grace to shape our hearts, priorities, and habits in everyday life.

In week one, we'll simply stop and marvel at the overwhelming generosity of God. He is a Father who gives freely and abundantly, and who has not withheld even His own Son. Every act of Christian generosity begins by receiving what God has first given us.

In week two, we'll look at how grace enlarges the heart. We'll see how the early Christians gave joyfully and sacrificially—not because they had to, but because they wanted to. The grace of Jesus frees us from legalism, and grows in us a desire to excel in the grace of giving.

In week three, we'll consider the dangers of wealth and the wisdom of eternity. Jesus teaches us to live for what lasts. Generosity is one of the ways we loosen money's grip and live in light of the world to come.

As we open the Scriptures together, I pray that this series will strengthen your faith, expand your joy, and deepen your trust in our generous God.

With love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mark Roberts". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mark Roberts
Senior Pastor

Budgeting Workshop

HOW TO BE A FAITHFUL STEWARD

Clayton Ryan, a former elder at WBC, is the pastor of Tahmoor Baptist Church and is a trained accountant. At this free workshop he will be helping us think about setting up and managing budgets for our households, whilst keeping godly priorities. This promises to be a helpful and practical seminar.

Join us

8.45AM – 10.00AM
SATURDAY 5TH JULY

330 KEIRA ST
WOLLONGONG



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BAPTIST CHURCH

TALK 1: THE GENEROUS GOD

Sunday 15th June

What have you learnt about the generous life to which God calls you?

STUDY 1: THE GENEROUS GOD

1. Have you ever been on the receiving end of extravagant generosity?
2. Why is it important to begin thinking about generosity by reflecting on what God has done for us—not what we are meant to do for Him?
3. Consider the incredible diversity and richness of creation. What does this reveal about the character of God?
4. James 1:17 says that “every good and perfect gift is from above.” What are some specific gifts in your life that you might tend to overlook?

Read Romans 8:31-39

5. Read Romans 8:31–32. What does this tell us about the lengths God has gone to in giving to us?

6. What part of your salvation described here makes you most thankful?

Read Ephesians 1:3-10

7. Which of these spiritual blessings that we have in Christ brings you the most comfort or joy?

8. How have you gone at living this week with a constant, conscious gratitude to God for his generosity towards you? What has made this hard?

Read Psalm 103 to finish and pray with gratitude for all God has done and continues to do for you.

Don't forget the *Beyond These Walls* prayer and info night on Tuesday 24th June, 7.30pm at WBC

TALK 2: GROWING A GENEROUS HEART

Sunday 22nd June

What have you learnt about the generous life to which God calls you?

STUDY 2: GROWING A GENEROUS HEART

Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

1. What stands out to you about the generosity of the Macedonian churches?
2. According to v9, what is the foundation and motivation for Christian giving?
3. What might it mean for you to “excel in the grace of giving”? (2 Cor 8:7)

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

4. When thinking about how much to give, what helpful principles can we draw from these verses?

5. Do you find yourself more likely to ask, “How much should I give?” or “How is God growing my heart to give?” What’s the difference?

Read Mark 12:41-44

6. How does Jesus redefine generosity? What lessons can we learn from the widow?
7. Compare the commands to tithe in the Old Testament with the motivation for giving in the New Testament. How are they different? How should we understand the idea of tithing?
8. Reflecting on your own giving habits, what role has grace played in shaping them?

Spend time praying that God would enlarge your heart and help you grow in the grace of giving.

TALK 3: LIVING FOR WHAT LASTS

Sunday 29th June

What have you learnt about the generous life to which God calls you?

STUDY 3: LIVING FOR WHAT LASTS

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10

1. According to this passage, what are the spiritual dangers of loving money?

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19

2. What does Paul want Timothy to say to the wealthy? What does it mean to “take hold of the life that is truly life”?

Read Luke 12:13-21

3. What mistake does the rich man make in this parable? How can we guard ourselves from the same mindset?
4. Jesus says in Luke 12:34, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” How does this truth challenge you personally?

Read Matthew 25:14-30

5. What does the master expect his servants to do with his resources whilst he's away? What is significant about the way he rewards the first two servants?

6. What does this story reveal about the connection between our faith and our use of the blessings God has entrusted to us? (v24-25)

7. What is it stake with the way we use our money?

Spend time praying for God to give you an eternal perspective, and to help you live a generous life that prioritises His kingdom.



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