

Cheltenham  
Ps Rob Buckingham  
14 & 15 November 2015

## **SERIES: MORE THAN... (3)**

### **MORE THAN GENEROUS**

#### **Message Notes**

Even a casual glance through the Bible gives us insight into the nature of God and we quickly see He is generous...

*"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us" Ephesians 1:7*

*"The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin" Exodus 34:6-7*

*"God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment" 1 Timothy 6:17*

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ" Ephesians 1:3*

*"From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another" John 1:16*

*"In the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus" Ephesians 2:7*

*"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1*

*"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You*

*anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows” Ps 23:5*

*“How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light” Ps 36:7-9*

God is MORE THAN Generous to us through Jesus. His nature is in us and we can reflect His generous nature in the way we live “more than generous” lives. Three examples...

### **Example One: Mark 12:41-44**

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*“Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others” (Mark 12:43)*

### **Truth 1: Generosity is not about what you have. It’s about what you do with what you have!**

The church that supported Paul the most was the poorest of the churches he had planted (2 Cor. 8:1-4)

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*“For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need... I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God” (Philippians 4:16, 18)*

**Example Two: Luke 8:4-15**

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*"Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear" (Luke 8:8)*

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**Truth 2: When you sow in good ground, what you reap will always be MORE THAN what you sow**

**Example Three: Acts 20:35**

*"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'" (Acts 20:35)*

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**Truth 3: Learn to be a good receiver otherwise you are robbing someone of a blessing**

**Truth 4: Learn to be a good giver otherwise you're robbing someone of a blessing!**

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We believe we are to share the good news about Jesus, and express our faith in practical ways, beyond our church gatherings. The gospel is good news to the poor, the captives, the blind and the oppressed, (Luke 4:18). We believe that social justice is inseparable from the gospel message (Galatians 2:10)

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive!"*