

DR. BRIAN BENNETT, LEAD PASTOR

Organic Disciples

GROWING SPIRITUALLY AND SHARING JESUS





SERMON NOTES
[PATHWAYVB.COM/FYI](https://pathwayvb.com/fyi)

**“ORGANIC DISCIPLESHIP” MEANS WE ARE
EXPLORING 7 WAYS TO GROW SPIRITUALLY
AND NATURALLY SHARE JESUS**

Spiritual Growth

ASSESSMENT



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**BIBLICAL
ENGAGEMENT**



**PASSIONATE
PRAYER**



**WHOLEHEARTED
WORSHIP**



**HUMBLE
SERVICE**



**JOYFUL
GENEROSITY**



**CONSISTENT
COMMUNITY**



**ORGANIC
OUTREACH**

JOYFUL GENEROSITY



**JOYFUL GENEROSITY IS CORE
TO A RELATIONSHIP WITH
JESUS, BECAUSE HE IS THE
MOST JOYFULLY GENEROUS
BEING IN THE UNIVERSE.**

“THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SO GREAT A CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US ALSO LAY ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT, AND SIN WHICH CLINGS SO CLOSELY, AND LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US, 2 LOOKING TO JESUS, THE FOUNDER AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME, AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.”

[HEBREWS 12:1-2 ESV]

**JESUS IS THE MOST JOYFULLY
GENEROUS BEING IN THE UNIVERSE
AND INVITES US TO BE LIKE HIM.**

[HEBREWS 12:1-2; LUKE 19:1-10; PHILIPPIANS 4:19 ESV]











**WHAT IF EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH
GAVE LIKE I DO?**

“HE ENTERED JERICHO AND WAS PASSING THROUGH. 2 AND BEHOLD, THERE WAS A MAN NAMED ZACCHAEUS. HE WAS A CHIEF TAX COLLECTOR AND WAS RICH. 3 AND HE WAS SEEKING TO SEE WHO JESUS WAS, BUT ON ACCOUNT OF THE CROWD HE COULD NOT, BECAUSE HE WAS SMALL IN STATURE. 4 SO HE RAN ON AHEAD AND CLIMBED UP INTO A SYCAMORE TREE TO SEE HIM, FOR HE WAS ABOUT TO PASS THAT WAY. 5 AND WHEN JESUS CAME TO THE PLACE, HE LOOKED UP AND SAID TO HIM, “ZACCHAEUS, HURRY AND COME DOWN, FOR I MUST STAY AT YOUR HOUSE TODAY.”

[LUKE 19:1-10 ESV]

6 SO HE HURRIED AND CAME DOWN AND RECEIVED HIM JOYFULLY. 7 AND WHEN THEY SAW IT, THEY ALL GRUMBLED, "HE HAS GONE IN TO BE THE GUEST OF A MAN WHO IS A SINNER." 8 AND ZACCHAEUS STOOD AND SAID TO THE LORD, "BEHOLD, LORD, THE HALF OF MY GOODS I GIVE TO THE POOR. AND IF I HAVE DEFRAUDED ANYONE OF ANYTHING, I RESTORE IT FOURFOLD." 9 AND JESUS SAID TO HIM, "TODAY SALVATION HAS COME TO THIS HOUSE, SINCE HE ALSO IS A SON OF ABRAHAM. 10 FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST."

[LUKE 19:1-10 ESV]

**“IF WE LIVE FREE FROM THE ENTANGLEMENTS
OF POSSESSIONS, PEOPLE WILL WANT WHAT WE
HAVE. THEN WE CAN TELL THEM ABOUT THE
ONE WHO HAS SATISFIED OUR SOULS,
PROVIDED FOR OUR NEEDS, AND GIVEN US
INHERITANCES IN HEAVEN THAT CAN NEVER
BE TAKEN AWAY”**

- KEVIN HARNEY

**“AND MY GOD WILL SUPPLY EVERY NEED OF YOURS
ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY IN CHRIST JESUS”**

[PHILIPPIANS 4:19 ESV]

**JOYFUL GENEROSITY IS THE WAY OF
JESUS AND THE WAY OF HIS DISCIPLES.**

[2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-15 ESV]

“NOW IT IS SUPERFLUOUS FOR ME TO WRITE TO YOU ABOUT THE MINISTRY FOR THE SAINTS, ² FOR I KNOW YOUR READINESS, OF WHICH I BOAST ABOUT YOU TO THE PEOPLE OF MACEDONIA, SAYING THAT ACHAIA HAS BEEN READY SINCE LAST YEAR. AND YOUR ZEAL HAS STIRRED UP MOST OF THEM. ³ BUT I AM SENDING THE BROTHERS SO THAT OUR BOASTING ABOUT YOU MAY NOT PROVE EMPTY IN THIS MATTER, SO THAT YOU MAY BE READY, AS I SAID YOU WOULD BE.

[2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-5 ESV]

**4 OTHERWISE, IF SOME MACEDONIANS COME WITH ME AND
FIND THAT YOU ARE NOT READY, WE WOULD BE
HUMILIATED—TO SAY NOTHING OF YOU—FOR BEING SO
CONFIDENT. 5 SO I THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO URGE THE
BROTHERS TO GO ON AHEAD TO YOU AND ARRANGE IN
ADVANCE FOR THE GIFT YOU HAVE PROMISED, SO THAT IT
MAY BE READY AS A WILLING GIFT, NOT AS AN EXACTION”**

[2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-5 ESV]

JESUS' DISCIPLES RECOGNIZE REALITY BUT
RESPOND TO HIS REVELATION BY FAITH.

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“THE POINT IS THIS: WHOEVER SOWS SPARINGLY WILL ALSO REAP SPARINGLY, AND WHOEVER SOWS BOUNTIFULLY WILL ALSO REAP BOUNTIFULLY. 7 EACH ONE MUST GIVE AS HE HAS DECIDED IN HIS HEART, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. 8 AND GOD IS ABLE TO MAKE ALL GRACE ABOUND TO YOU, SO THAT HAVING ALL SUFFICIENCY IN ALL THINGS AT ALL TIMES, YOU MAY ABOUND IN EVERY GOOD WORK. 9 AS IT IS WRITTEN, “HE HAS DISTRIBUTED FREELY, HE HAS GIVEN TO THE POOR; HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER.”

[2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15 ESV]

10 HE WHO SUPPLIES SEED TO THE SOWER AND BREAD FOR FOOD WILL SUPPLY AND MULTIPLY YOUR SEED FOR SOWING AND INCREASE THE HARVEST OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.
11 YOU WILL BE ENRICHED IN EVERY WAY TO BE GENEROUS IN EVERY WAY, WHICH THROUGH US WILL PRODUCE THANKSGIVING TO GOD. 12 FOR THE MINISTRY OF THIS SERVICE IS NOT ONLY SUPPLYING THE NEEDS OF THE SAINTS BUT IS ALSO OVERFLOWING IN MANY THANKSGIVINGS TO GOD.

[2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15 ESV]

13 BY THEIR APPROVAL OF THIS SERVICE, THEY WILL GLORIFY GOD BECAUSE OF YOUR SUBMISSION THAT COMES FROM YOUR CONFESSION OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST, AND THE GENEROSITY OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR THEM AND FOR ALL OTHERS, 14 WHILE THEY LONG FOR YOU AND PRAY FOR YOU, BECAUSE OF THE SURPASSING GRACE OF GOD UPON YOU. 15 THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS INEXPRESSIBLE GIFT! ”

[2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15 ESV]

**JESUS' DISCIPLES GIVE JOYFULLY
AS THEY WATCH GOD GROW WHAT
THEY SOW FOR HIS GLORY.**

PATHWAY TO THE *Generous Life*

Growing in generosity is a vital part of following Jesus as one of His disciples. This giving journey lays out different places you might currently be in your own generosity journey. We encourage you to ask this simple, but challenging question: what are the next steps God is leading me to take in regard to my giving?

As you consider your next steps to the "generous life" we encourage you to:

- 1) Lean In:** Put God first by sitting down with your Bible, praying, and reflecting on your life to see where you need to trust Him more. (Proverbs 3:5-12)
- 2) Listen:** Prayerfully seek God's guidance about your giving using both reason and revelation. (Matthew 7:7-8)
- 3) Be Specific:** Determine specifically how your resources can be used by God to further His kingdom. (2 Corinthians 9:7; Matthew 25:19-21)
- 4) Be Faithful:** Take your next step with God and let Him show you His faithfulness as you walk with Him. (Malachi 3:6-12)



Pathway Church
has designed a simple
"pathway to the
generous life"

FIRST TIME GIVER

I have never given at Pathway, and I will take this first step.



REGULAR GIVER

I have given at Pathway, but I am committing to give regularly.



YOUR FIRST & FINEST

I give regularly at Pathway, but I will give a percentage that reflects the "first and finest" of my income.



STRATEGIC GIVING

I give beyond my "first and finest" percentage at Pathway strategically and my life is marked by overflowing blessing to others. I have learned to live off less, to give more.



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NEXT STEP QUESTIONS:

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED JESUS AND HIS JOYFUL
GENEROSITY IN YOUR LIFE?**

NEXT STEP QUESTIONS:

**WILL YOU JOIN RAMSEY + AND/OR FINANCIAL
PEACE UNIVERSITY TO DEAL WITH REALITY?**

NEXT STEP QUESTIONS:

**WILL YOU TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP ON THE
PATHWAY TO THE GENEROUS LIFE AND DO WHAT
GOD REVEALS?**

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