

# Organic Disciples



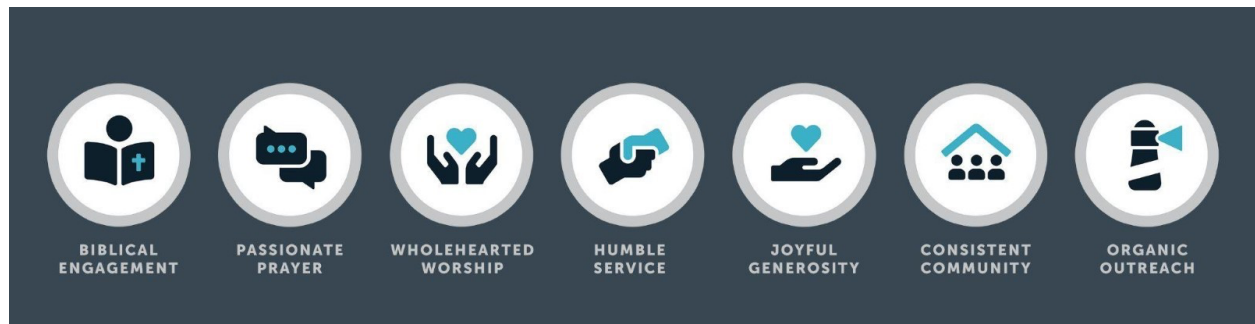
## SERMON NOTES

February 9, 2025

Speaker: Pastor Brian Bennett

**“Joyful Generosity”**

**Organic Disciples: “Joyful Generosity”**



**Joyful generosity is core to a relationship with Jesus, because He is the most joyfully generous being in the universe.**

**Jesus is the most \_\_\_\_\_ being in the universe and invites us to be like Him. [Hebrews 12:1-2; Luke 19:1-10; Philippians 4:19]**

**Joyful generosity is the \_\_\_\_\_ and the way \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**[2 Corinthians 9:1-15]**

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- Jesus' disciples \_\_\_\_\_ but respond to His \_\_\_\_\_ by faith.
- Jesus' disciples give joyfully as they watch God \_\_\_\_\_ for His glory.

## Next Step Questions:

- Have you received Jesus' and His joyful generosity in your life?
- Will you join Ramsey + and/or Financial Peace University to deal with reality?
- Will you take your next step on the pathway to the generous life and do what God reveals?

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## PATHWAY TO THE *Generous Life*

### WHAT'S MY NEXT STEP?

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 is the next step God is leading me to take in regard to my giving?

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

- 1) Lean In:** Put God first by sitting down with your Bible, praying, and reviewing your life to see where your need to trust Him more. (Proverbs 3:5-12)
- 2) Listen:** Prayerfully seek God's guidance for 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 by faith 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. This is a person who learns to live off less to give more.



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## Pathway Group Discussion Questions:

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How is God at work in and around your life?

- 1. Understanding Joyful Generosity:**
  - How does the sermon define "joyful generosity," and why is it considered core to a relationship with Jesus?
  - In what ways does Jesus exemplify joyful generosity according to the passages referenced (Hebrews 12:1-2, Luke 19:1-10, Philippians 4:19)?
- 2. Personal Reflection:**
  - Reflect on the question posed in the sermon: "What if everyone in the church gave like I do?" How does this challenge your current approach to giving?
  - Can you share a personal experience where you witnessed or participated in joyful generosity? How did it impact you or others?
- 3. Biblical Examples and Teachings:**
  - Discuss the story of Zacchaeus in Luke 19:1-10. How does his encounter with Jesus illustrate the transformation that comes from joyful generosity?
  - How does 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 encourage believers to give joyfully? What promises are associated with this kind of giving?
- 4. Practical Application:**
  - The sermon mentions tools like Ramsey+ and Financial Peace University. How can these resources help individuals and families deal with reality and learn to practice joyful generosity?
  - What steps can you take to "lean in, listen, be specific, and be faithful" in your journey towards a generous life?
- 5. Community Impact:**
  - How can a church community collectively embody the principle of joyful generosity? What might be the impact on the wider community?
  - Reflect on the quote by Kevin Harney: "If we live free from the entanglements of possessions, people will want what we have." How can this perspective influence our witness to others?
- 6. What is God revealing to you personally?**
  - What does it mean to receive Jesus' joyful generosity in your life, and how can this influence your daily actions and decisions?
  - Consider the "Pathway to the Generous Life" graphic mentioned in the sermon. What is your next step in this journey, and how can you be intentional about taking it?

Continued below....

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**7. How did you respond to the next step questions this week?**

- Have you received Jesus' and His joyful generosity in your life?
- Will you join Ramsey + and/or Financial Peace University to deal with reality?

[www.pathwayvb.com/ramsey](http://www.pathwayvb.com/ramsey)

- Will you take your next step on the pathway to the generous life and do what God reveals? (see below for "pathway to the generous life".

**8. How can we pray for you and support you this week?**

**Pathway reminder:** please take the assessment to help yourself and Pathway?

- [www.pathwayvb.com/survey](http://www.pathwayvb.com/survey)

Note for life group leaders: if you need additional support or resources due to the depth of the verses and topics covered don't hesitate to reach out: [zorom@pathwayvb.com](mailto:zorom@pathwayvb.com)

[Visit the Pathway Church Calendar – Click Here](#)

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**January 26 – February 1, 2025**

## **FINANCIALS**

\$45,598 down 20.9% to budget for W/E 2/1/25

\$145,726 down 19.3% to budget for Year to Date

\$213,701 Net Revenue after including other income through December 2024

\$280,277 for Missions or 14.1% of General Giving YTD through December 2024

## **CONNECT**

Total Worship Attendance: 1228

Online: 359

TWC Attendance Sunday: 607

Kids Sunday/Wednesday: 92

Students Sunday/Wednesday: 92

## **GROW**

Baptisms (YTD): 87

Discipleship Groups: 249

Salvations (YTD): 121

## **SERVE**

People Fed at Food Pantry (one day): 73

Weekly Volunteers: 105