

A Generous Life Part 2: A Part Of The Story

*"Command those who are rich in the things of this life not to be proud, but to place their hope, not in such an uncertain thing as riches, but in God, who generously gives us everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good works, to **be generous** and **ready to share** with others. In this way they will store up for themselves a treasure which will be a solid foundation for the future. And then they will be able to win the life which is true life."*

1 Timothy 6:17-19 GNT

*"For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil."* 1 Timothy 6:10 NIV

*"For where your **treasure** is, there your **heart** will be also."* Matthew 6:21 NIV

*"As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. **If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.**" This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."*

Matthew 21:1-11 NIV

God who **has** everything, who **made** everything, who **gave** us everything, **asks us for something**.

Jesus rides into town on the **generosity** of **ordinary people**.

Generosity writes you into the **story God is writing**.

"Remember that the person who plants few seeds will have a small crop; the one who plants many seeds will have a large crop. You should each give, then, as you have decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly. And God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause. As the scripture says, "He gives generously to the needy; his kindness lasts forever." And God, who supplies seed for the sower and bread to eat, will also supply you with all the seed you need and will make it grow and produce a rich harvest from your generosity. He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times, so that many will thank God for your gifts which they receive from us." 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 GNT

1. Give willingly.

*"You should each give, then, **as you have decided**, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly." 2 Corinthians 9:7 GNT*

2. Give expectantly.

*"And God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and **more than enough** for every good cause... He will always make you **rich enough to be generous at all times**." 2 Corinthians 9:8, 11 GNT*

"Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed." Proverbs 11:24-25 NLT

3. Give generously.

*"You know the **generous grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9 NLT*