

Today's Message: "Remember Me"

"I believe that we are destined to be remembered by the wounds, the brokenness and the lack of wholeness unless we come to grips with and become grateful people."

"A grateful person becomes a generous person."

"Whoever gives to the poor will not want, but he who hides his eyes will get many a curse." (Proverbs 28:27, ESV)

"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor. (Proverbs 22:9, NIV)

The "Gifts" of Generosity...

²⁵ *And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"* ²⁶ *He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?"* ²⁷ *And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."* ²⁸ *And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."* ²⁹ *But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:25-29, ESV)*

"Like the lawyer we seek generosity loopholes & alibis."

³⁰ *Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. "* ³¹ *Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. "* ³² *So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. "* ³³ *But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. (Luke 10:30-33, ESV)*

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1. The Gift of Inconvenience

- When is the last time you allowed yourself to be inconvenienced for the sake of someone else?

³⁴ *He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. (Luke 10:34, ESV)*

2. The Gift of Getting Your Hands Dirty

³⁵ *And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' (Luke 10:35, ESV)*

3. The Gift of Sacrifice

- A river or a reservoir?

³⁶ *Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise." (Luke 10:36, ESV)*

Generosity Ideas

- "I Like Giving" – by Brad Formsma
- "More or Less" – by Jeff Shinabarger

Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

Read the Story of the Good Samaritan; Luke 10: 25-37.

1. Have you ever found yourself seeking generosity "loopholes or alibis?" In other words; do you seek excuses or reasons to rationalize not being generous? (I believe we all do to some degree.) Share some of your best loopholes & alibis.
2. Why do you think Jesus set the Samaritan (despised by Jews) up as the "good guy" in the story?
3. When is the last time you allowed yourself to be inconvenienced for the sake of someone else? (It's ok to 'brag' about yourself a bit here!)
4. Scott used an illustration contrasting a river and a reservoir. Someone, or several people, from the group explain that illustration in your own words. Are you more like a river or a reservoir?
5. Jesus told the lawyer; "Go and do likewise?" How can your Small Group "go and do likewise" this summer?

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