November 24, 2024: The Generous Life, Part 2

The power of sharing.

Scripture: Luke 9:10-17

- 1. Has there been a time in your life when someone shared *extravagantly* with you? Describe that situation and your response?
- 2. Can you recall a time when you experienced lack and scarcity?
- 3. Read Luke 9:10-17. What do *you* think the "point" of this story is? Why do you think every gospel writer chose to include this story?
- 4. What specific actions does Jesus do in this story? What words do you notice?
- 5. Had you been a disciple in this story, what would have been your reaction to Jesus' command, "You give them something to eat"?
- 6. How does this story of the feeding of the multitudes speak to the church today?
- 7. How did your parents teach you about sharing? Is your understanding and practice of sharing different from that of your parents?
- 8. How would you describe abundance?
- 9. Have you ever experienced a miracle? How did that experience change you?

November 17, 2024: The Generous Life, Part 1

The joy and power of a generous life.

Scripture: I Chronicles 29: 9, 13-15, 17

- 1) In verses 13-14, David praises God for the wealth and honor given to Israel. How does acknowledging that everything comes from God affect your perspective on generosity?
- 2) How might this acknowledgment inspire joy in giving?
- 3) How does recognizing that God is the owner of all things change our perspective on giving?
- 4) How can this shift in perspective increase our joy in giving?
- 5) In verse 14, David asks, "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?"
 - How does a humble heart lead to joy in giving? Is there a connection between humility and giving?
- 6) How might focusing on gratitude instead of pride transform our attitude toward giving?

David and the leaders of Israel gave freely and joyfully to God's work.

7) How can giving as a local church foster joy and unity? David knew that he would not see the completed temple. His Son, Solomon, would complete the building of the temple.

- 8) How, then, did David find joy in giving to something that he wouldn't personally benefit from?
- 9) How can we freely give so that future generations will benefit from our giving?