

A Generous Life: Love Gives

March 7 & 8, 2026

All Bible passages are quoted from the New International Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 | ¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

1. Recognize that love always GIVES.

John 3:16 | For God so loved the world that he gave ...

2. Choose the right MINDSET.

- REFUSE the bag mindset.
- STEP into the barn mindset.

3. Put GOD first, not MONEY.

Generosity Ladder



www.FOTP.church/ladder

NEXT STEP: We don't give because we have extra—we give because God is enough.

Get on the generosity ladder.

A Generous Life: Love Gives

March 7 & 8, 2026

Further Study & Discussion Questions

Getting to Know You:

1. What's something you enjoy giving away—time, advice, money, encouragement? Why does that feel good to you?
2. Growing up, would you say your family leaned more toward saving tightly or giving freely? How do you think that shaped you?

Quick Review:

1. In **2 Corinthians 8:1–5**, the Macedonian churches gave generously even in “very severe trial” and “extreme poverty.” What stands out to you most about their attitude?
2. **John 3:16** says, “For God so loved the world that He gave...” Why do you think love and giving are inseparable?

Digging Deeper:

1. The message talked about the “Bag Mindset” (scarcity) versus the “Barn Mindset” (trusting God’s abundance). Where do you see the Bag Mindset show up in your own thinking?
2. **2 Corinthians 8:5** says they “gave themselves first of all to the Lord.” Why do you think surrendering to God comes before generosity toward others?
3. The Macedonians pleaded for the privilege of giving. What would have to change in your heart for giving to feel like a privilege instead of an obligation?

Putting It Into Practice:

1. Where is God inviting you to take one step up the generosity ladder right now—time, talent, or treasure?
2. If “we don’t give because we have extra—we give because God is enough,” what would it look like to live like God is truly enough this week?
3. What is one concrete action you can take in the next seven days to put God first instead of money?