



The Life Of Overflow WEEK 3 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

In this message of the series *Overflow*, we will discuss three types of givers and how we can live a life of Overflow.

DISCUSSION

Our theme verse for this series is **2 Corinthians 9:8: *And God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that, always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed.*** God wants to help us experience overflow in every area of our lives, where we have all we need, plus enough to bless others. **Proverbs 22:9: *He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor.*** When we have a generous eye for others, God will bless us.

- How has this message series impacted you so far?
- What does it mean to have a generous eye?

The enemy can't stop the blessings of God, but he can try to distort our relationship with the blessings of God. Many times, the enemy will make us feel prideful for our blessing or shameful that we are blessed. But God desires for us to enjoy our blessings from Him and also be a blessing to others. We should always remember why God blessed us. We are blessed to be a blessing.

- Why do you think God wants to bless us?
- What steps can individuals take to move away from the unhealthy mindsets of both pride and shame, and instead approach God's blessings with a more balanced and grateful attitude?
- In what ways can we ensure that we remember the purpose behind God's blessings and use them to bless others rather than keeping them for ourselves?
- Share a time when someone has blessed you.

Three Types of Givers:

1. The Spontaneous Giver

If spontaneous giving is the only way we give, we will, long-term, be limited in how blessed we are. It is good to give by seeing a need and meeting it spontaneously, like the Good Samaritan in **Luke 10**, but if it's the only time we are willing to give, we will miss out on an even greater blessing that awaits us. **Luke 10:35** says, ***On the next***

day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, “Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.” This is a great example of seeing a need and meeting it. Spontaneous giving is a great starting place, but God has more for us.

- Have you ever spontaneously blessed others? What was your experience?

2. The Strategic Giver

This is a person who plans to be generous. **Isaiah 32:8: *But a generous man devises generous things, and by generosity he shall stand.*** They plan and devise to strategically give. This is a percentage giver above the tithe, where they decide ahead of time what percentage they want to give after giving ten percent to God’s house. The strategic giver starts with the tithe, then looks at and prayerfully considers where they can give offerings over and above the tithe.

- While spontaneous giving is admirable, how can planned and intentional giving enhance our ability to experience greater blessings in the long term?
- What are the benefits of both spontaneous and strategic giving, and how can they work together to maximize our impact in helping others?

3. The Sacrificial Giver

These are the ones that recognize that what we have in this world is not ours, it's Gods. Most people want to give what's left over. But remember, we give God what is right, not what's left. In **Mark 12**, Jesus watched many rich people throw large amounts of money in the offering bucket and saw that it was relatively easy for them. But, **verse 42** says that a poor widow comes and puts in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling His disciples to Him, Jesus says: **“...this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.”** This is sacrificial giving.

- How can we shift our perspective from giving what's left over to giving what is right, recognizing that everything we have ultimately belongs to God?
- What motivates people to practice sacrificial giving, even when it might involve personal sacrifice, and how can we cultivate a willingness to give in this way?
- Share a time when you gave in one of these three ways. How did it impact you?

LIFE CHALLENGE

We always have something to give. And when we have even less, that is when sometimes we can make the biggest sacrifice. Don’t forget – in your time of need, sow a seed! Ponder the three types of givers, and evaluate which type of giver you want to be!

PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER