





Practice: Creating Your Generosity Playbook



Every team has a playbook and they practice those plays over and over again. Their best plays they can execute in their sleep. They become unstoppable. Knowing what each team member is doing with dependable consistency is incredibly important. Gather your team together to use the Generosity by LifeWay tools to discern your current generosity plays. Then create some new ones as you discover your needs.

1. Generosity is not a money issue. It is a way of life issue. Studies show that children raised in generous homes are more likely to become generous as adults. Using the chart provided in the module, create a comprehensive list of every opportunity your church currently provides for people of all ages to practice generosity. Include items such as the weekly offering, student mission trip, and children’s pack a backpack for school drive. You may also want to categorize each opportunity by the topic according to the designations in the Generosity Hub and Pathway discussed in the Teach stage of the Generosity Cycle. This way you will have confidence that you are supporting what you Teach by what you Practice. (refer to example below)

Example:

Department	Event/Opportunity	Date(s)	Generosity Hub Topic/ Generosity Pathway	Color	Comments
Preschool	VBS Offering	June	Financial Generosity/ Beginning Giver		
Children	Operation Christmas Child®	Oct.-Nov.	Family Generosity		
Students	Camp Scholarships	April-May	Relational Generosity		
Adults	Key Giver Vision Banquet	April	Financial Generosity/ Tithing-Extravagant Givers		

2. Evaluate your current Generosity Playbook using Red, Green, and Yellow as your guide, decide if the opportunity is going no where and needs to be stopped (red); is experiencing unrealized potential and needs some work (yellow); or is creating momentum, needing to be accelerated (green).

- a. Place a red, green, or yellow filled-in circle by each event/opportunity in your Generosity Playbook.
- b. On those which have a yellow or green circle, record comments on how to optimize or retool this event opportunity.

3. Review your Generosity Playbook for the missing pieces. If you did not put any limitations on generous living, but desire to create a generous culture following the different teaching elements in the Generosity Hub and Pathway, which topics are not as well represented as they could be? Which type of giver may be under-disciplined? What steps of application need to be added? Remember all ages and income demographics in your consideration. Also know you cannot cover all topics in a year’s time. Target a three-year growth cycle for adults. Teens and children may be different.

4. Create your comprehensive Generosity Playbook. In the end it will compose all elements of your Generosity Cycle, covering a year’s worth of generosity strategy. For now, simply focus on Lead, Teach, and Practice. Each age-graded ministry can have their own. We will focus on discipling adults

as a pattern. Age group leaders can follow the model supporting the adult content. You will not complete your Generosity Playbook during this step of the cycle, but only integrate what you have developed in the Lead, Teach, and Practice stages.

Example:

Adults <i>(Ministry Department)</i>	Lead <i>(staff/leadership process)</i>	Teach <i>(preaching and small groups)</i>	Practice <i>(church/ ministry-wide practical applications)</i>	Celebrate <i>(events, reports, gatherings)</i>	Thank <i>(thank you, key giver opportunities)</i>
January		Generosity Small Groups Launch	Weekly Offering Talks		
February					
March			Serve Our City Event		
April					
May					
June					
July	Budget Process Begins		Mission Trip		
August		Discover Your Gifts Class			
September					
October					
November	Budget Approval				
December			Year End Offering		

5. Practice living out your newly developing Generosity Playbook by taking advantage of the following:

- a. Evaluate the success of each experience. How was your preparation, participation, and result? Was the opportunity in the best room, led by the right team, and engaging the right amount of volunteers? Did it move the vision forward? Was it in the right time slot, day, and month? Was it over- or under-resourced?
- b. Maintain a mindset of constantly learning and optimizing. Your people will help you learn how they enjoy being generous. Once you unlock your unique cultural patterns, you will begin to unleash giving.
- c. Repeat, repeat, repeat. Practice makes perfect. As you move through each month of practicing generosity followed by evaluation, you will actually be preparing your future calendar, budget, and ministry needs. For the Generosity Cycle to create real momentum, it's

not about doing something new and different every year — it's about optimizing what your church does best. Releasing passion and strength creates more synergy and momentum.