

OVERFLOW:

A LIFE REFRESHED BY GENEROSITY

Sermon Outline 3

 GENEROUSCHURCH™

Title: “Inspiration for Whole-Life Generosity: All we have is received with gratitude from God.”

1. INTRODUCTION

A. Welcome

1. Greetings, I’m [Name] – special welcome to our guests – glad you’re here.
2. We’ve been having fun being generous!
 - a. We gave out [insert number] generosity bags, and people have been sharing stories of how they used them.
 1. (Give any stories or examples that were done in the last week)

Slide: picture of generosity bags

B. *Overflow: A Life Refreshed by Generosity Series*

1. We’re in a series based on God’s love – how it inspires us to remarkable acts of generosity. Sometimes, it’s as simple of helping someone with a bag of groceries. Sometimes, it’s as notable a 1,000 people in a church doing a 1,000 acts of generous love.

2. We've seen Jesus, the great role model, who lived His life in relationship to God, received everything with gratitude as a gift from God and redirected it back to God to bless others.
3. We looked at how someone with no resource, Ruth, motivated someone with a lot of resources, Boaz, to take care of a vulnerable widow, Naomi, and found their lives woven into God's greater story as ancestors to David and Jesus.
4. It's David that I would like to talk about this week, the greatest King of Israel and a remarkable role model of generosity.

Transition: First, let's pray

2. GENEROSITY INVESTS IN THE FUTURE

- A. God's over-the-top, crazy-generous love weaves throughout the story of David's life.
 1. David is a 'rags-to-riches' story: he was a kid working the fields as a shepherd when God 'tapped him' to become king.
 2. He had remarkable victories as a warrior – rising quickly to public acclaim.
 3. He forged the nation into an international leader: expanding their borders, bringing peace and economic prosperity.
 4. He was a poet/song writer, crafting inspired pieces of deep spiritual reflection. We still recite them today.
 5. David is an example of contradictions – admirable stories of incredible devotion to God contrasted with dismal accounts of shocking failure.
 - a. He was also a moral failure of epic proportion: He impregnated another man's wife, arranged the murder of her husband and involved another leader in the scandal.

- b. On another occasion, he insulted God so greatly that whole nation suffered for it.
 - c. When he blew it, David wholeheartedly embraced responsibility for his actions, sought God’s forgiveness and did his best to move forward from that point.
 - d. David is a great inspiration to anyone who is afraid they have made too many mistakes to be acceptable to God. We love to talk more about that.
6. God loved David through his successes and his failures, his joy and his grief, his worship and his confession. David loved God’s love.

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“But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the LORD’s praise, for he has been good to me.” (Psalm 13:5–6 NIV)

- B. Because of God’s Love, David Invested in Future Generations.
- 1. God made a remarkable promise to David.

Slide: Bold

*“...the LORD will build a house for you—a dynasty of kings! **For when you die and join your ancestors, I will raise up one of your descendants, one of your sons, and I will make his kingdom strong. He is the one who will build a house—a temple—for me.** And I will secure his throne forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my favor from ...I will confirm him as king over my house and my kingdom for all time, and his throne will be secure forever.” (1 Chronicles 17:10–14 NLT)*

- a. God Commits Leadership. David’s son and future descendants would always lead the nation. This would climax w/ Christ, the great King & descendant of David.

- b. God Commits to a Place for Worship. God picked one son, Solomon, to build a great temple, a beautiful edifice, for people to worship God for centuries.
 - c. These are promises about the future of God's work through the children of David who would worship in a place they would build but David would not see.
2. David responded in a remarkable way.
 - a. When God identifies the place for the Temple, David made his own commitment.

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But King David replied to Araunah, *"No, I insist on buying it for the full price. I will not take what is yours and give it to the LORD. I will not present burnt offerings that have cost me nothing!"* (1 Chronicles 21:24 NLT)

1. Land. David is offered the land for free, but he buys the property because he wants to personally invest in helping future generations worship God.

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David said, *"My son Solomon is still young and inexperienced. And since the Temple to be built for the LORD must be a magnificent structure, famous and glorious throughout the world, I will begin making preparations for it now."* So, David collected vast amounts of building materials before his death. (1 Chronicles 22:5 NLT)

2. Material. David was wealthy, so he gave resources to build a house of worship that he would never use.

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“Now, my son, may the LORD be with you and give you success as you follow his directions in building the Temple of the LORD your God. And may the LORD give you wisdom and understanding, that you may obey the Law of the LORD your God as you rule over Israel.” (1 Chronicles 22:11–12 NLT)

3. Direction. David helped future generations by investing in leadership, giving them direction and advice to guide them.

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Then David ordered all the leaders of Israel to assist Solomon in this project. (1 Chronicles 22:17 NLT)

4. Support. David had people come alongside his son, the future leader to help him with the task ahead.

b. Think about this.

1. David loved God’s love. He lived his life in relationship to God, received everything in his life with gratitude as a gift from God and turned it all back to God to bless others. That’s generosity.
2. So, David cared about the future. He gave material resources, guidance and people to help his son lead the next generation to worship God.

3. GENEROUS PEOPLE INVEST IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

A. When you love God, you want future generations to love Him as well.

1. You want future generations to experience that love so they can be changed by it and prepared to give it away to others.

1. Optional Video Clip on growing generosity in the next generation

Choose a Video Clip to Show Here

Transition: when you love God

2. You want to make sure that the next generation is equipped to carry on Christ's work. (Show a couple of pictures)
 - a. Optional story of student missions or summer missions work

Slide: Student Mission leaders

- B. We must always be committed to generously investing in the future.
 1. People who lose a vision for the future condemn the church to die. Every church is only one generation away from closing
 2. This is a life verse of mine (example below):

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"Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come." (Psalm 71:17–18 NIV)

3. We want to leave vibrant churches who share Christ's love in remarkable ways all throughout this region for generations to come.
4. We want churches that are so effective in sharing the Gospel, that children, teens and young adults embrace God's love and then generously invest their lives to continue Christ's work.
5. To do that, we need to be a people who generously give back all God has given us to be a blessing to others.

Commission/End of Service

Prayer: Father, You have shown us incredible generosity and we are grateful. Christ loved us so much that He was willing to give up everything for us. Because He treasured us, help us make Him our ultimate treasure. Make us love Him, so that you can heal the world through our giving.

Pastor/Church Leader: Additional Overflow resources, including the six-week video study, are available at www.GenerousChurch.com/Overflow