

LIFEquestions

Your Story

- Can you think of a time when you were really blessed by an unexpected gift? What made it special?

God's Story*:

Get your Bibles out and read the full passages listed on the opposite page.

These three passages tell the stories of three people's generosity: the small boy (John 6); the Samaritan (Luke 10) and Zacchaeus (Luke 19).

As you read the stories reflect on these questions:

- What did they each give, and what did their gift represent to them?
- What was the cost and/or risk for each of them in making their gift.
- What effect does their generosity have in the lives of others?
- What if they had withheld their gifts? What would have been the effect on others and how might they themselves have felt as they thought about it the next day?
- What connections does Jesus make between their generosity and his own mission?

Your Story

- What principles for Christian generosity have you identified in your discussion?
- Are there any of the three stories that group members feel connects with their current experience?
- What opportunities are there to be generous on people's frontlines at the moment?
- Pray together about these things.

* These questions are a guide only. Do not feel you have to cover them all. Do feel free to allow the conversation to develop in other directions, if it seems fruitful (and stays on the subject!). Do pray for one another.

LIFEText

- 8 Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up.
9 "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?"
10 "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.)
11 Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted.

READ John 6:1-15

- 34 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.
35 The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins,[c] telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here.'

READ Luke 10:3-37

- 8 Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "I will give half my wealth to the poor, Lord, and if I have cheated people on their taxes, I will give them back four times as much!"
9 Jesus responded, "Salvation has come to this home today, for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham."

READ Luke 19:1-10

LifeSHAPE
live for God

LifeSTREAM
connect with God

LifeSOURCE
rooted in God

