




Generosity - content ideas for Christian collective worship

<p>Definition: <i>Christians believe generosity is giving freely without limit or conditions... even when it hurts!</i> It is a response to God's love. This generosity, once experienced and acknowledged by an individual can in turn release a generous spirit towards others.</p> <p>Generosity by the Bible Project</p>	<p>Key Bible Character -</p>  <p>God was generous to Abraham and Sarah. He promised to make Abraham the father of a great people and said that Abraham and his descendants must obey God. In return God would guide them and protect them and give them the land of Israel. Every time he gave he was given more in response.</p>		
<p>Questions - I wonder can we give without expecting to receive back? How can we be generous with our words? How can we be generous with our actions? How can we be generous with our time? How can we be generous with our talents? How can generosity be woven into the curriculum? What are the needs in our local community?</p>	<p>Key Bible verse: 2 Corinthians 9:7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.</p> <p>Prayer: Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, except that of knowing that I do your will. Amen St. Ignatius Loyola</p>		
	Bible stories and verses linked to generosity	Bible chapter and verse	Key message
	video on generosity for children		
1	Good Samaritan Lion Storyteller Bible – The Kind Stranger p.104	Luke 10:25-37 video	Generous people give more than just money. The Good Samaritan gave time, resources and skills to meet the needs of the man left for dead, a man he didn't know or would probably never see again.
2	The widow's mite Lion Storyteller Bible – The Widow's coins p. 134	Luke 21: 1-4 video	A giving heart Jesus noticed the poor widow. He saw that she knew and loved God and that she trusted God to meet her needs, in every area of her life. This meant she was free to be generous and give her two copper coins away. "The person who gives with a

			smile is the best giver because God loves a cheerful giver." Mother Teresa. It's the sacrifice that counts.
3	Food from heaven	Exodus 15-17 video	God gives what is needed.
4	Feeding the 5,000 Lion Storyteller Bible –The Marvellous Picnic p.102	John 6:9 video	God's generosity leaves no one out. The young boy who had enough faith to give his own lunch away! He was risking his own provision, his own comfort, in the hope of helping others. One boy's faith is what set in motion the amazing miracle of Jesus feeding the 5,000.
5	Command them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share with others.	1 Timothy 6.18	Christians believe that everything we have really belongs to God, and we need to be responsible with it and not greedy. In the Bible we are called to be generous and ready to share.
6	Elijah stays with a widow Lion Storyteller Bible – A Jar and a Jug p. 60	1 Kings 17.7-16 Video - click here	God's generosity is abundant, even when it feels like we are faced with nothing.
7	The Rich and the Kingdom of God (it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God).	Luke 18:18-30 video	The young ruler chooses to fail at generosity despite having all the resources to accomplish it.
8	Zacchaeus meets Jesus Lion Storyteller Bible – Jesus and the Taxman p. 130	Luke 19:8 video	Zacchaeus is really wealthy and new to living Jesus' way. Jesus doesn't ask him to show his faith through generosity at all but still this doesn't stop Zaccheus from thinking about it on his own. He confesses to being a cheat and thief. Then he demonstrates a changed life by giving half his possessions to the poor and paying back anyone he wronged 4x what he owed them.
9	Joseph and his brothers Lion Storyteller Bible – Joseph the Ruler p. 26	Genesis 45 video	Think about the strength it took for Joseph to not only forgive his brothers, but to welcome them and give them amazing gifts. Joseph is a great example of generosity – he gave generously even when it made no sense for him to do so.
10	David's kindness	2 Samuel 9	King David remembered his good friend Jonathan. He found out that before Jonathan died, he had had a son named Mephibosheth. David had Mephibosheth brought before him. He gave

			Mephibosheth all of the land that had belonged to Saul. He also gave him servants and told him that he would always take care of him. He treated him like a son. David did not wait until Mephibosheth asked for help. He gave kindness freely
11	Barnabas	Acts 4:36-37	Barnabas had something valuable, a piece of property he owned. However, the needs around him caused a generous response. He sold the property and brought 100% of the proceeds to the apostles so they could meet the needs of the community. The property he owned was actually a gift from God to meet the needs of another.
12	Abraham Lion Storyteller Bible – God’s Friend p.16	Genesis 12 video	God was generous to Abraham and Sarah. He promised to make Abraham the father of a great people and said that Abraham and his descendants must obey God. In return God would guide them and protect them and give them the land of Israel. Every time he gave he was given more in response.
13	Jesus and the sinful woman	Mark 14:1-11 video	This extremely generous gift was given directly to and benefitting Jesus. The Bible tells us that this perfume was worth more than an entire year’s wage! It was such a crazy-big gift that it shocked those who were present. They actually rebuked her for being wasteful. Instead Jesus applauds her. He says it is a clear reminder of how generous the gospel really is.

Other free resources on generosity to explore:

- <http://payitforwardday.co.uk/>
- <https://www.brf.org.uk/product/generosity-michael-faraday/>
- <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a8ac2c47131a52e6cd89175/t/5a93e965085229b264fd5b23/1519642994113/ValuesForLifeSavers-Generosity.pdf>
- <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/faith-home/faith-home-videos/collective-worship-primary-schools-episode-8-generosity>
- Project Malachi <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88ounhVIPbA>