



COSiloveyou: Part 3: Don't Judge A Book By It's Cover

We've all heard or said the phrase, "Don't judge a book by its cover". But we also shouldn't judge a person by how they look, a business by their website or social media which is so prevalent in our culture, or even a church by its image of generosity. Jason encourages us to see the difference between a giving church and a generous church.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What part of Sunday's message stood out to you? Was there anything you disagreed with or that encouraged you?

"Only generous people can make a church generous.."

When you think of a generous person, who comes to mind? Take some time to share with the group about some generous people you've met and what it was that made an impact on you.

Read: 1 Corinthians 16:1-3

The first church ever was located in Jerusalem. Shortly after it began, a great persecution came against the church and many of the first followers left Jerusalem. At the same time, Paul became a follower of Jesus and he began to travel all over the Mediterranean telling people about Jesus and starting churches in many of the cities and regions he went to. The Christians living in Jerusalem were struggling not just with persecution, but financially also, so Paul addresses this with the church in Corinth.

- What was the purpose behind Paul encouraging the church in Corinth to be generous? Why do we need to be generous to our local church here in Colorado Springs?
- Paul used language like "in keeping with your income" and "saving it up" to talk about the process for generosity. What was he trying to communicate to that church? How can you apply those principles to your generosity?
- Why is a heart of generosity individually so important to creating a church that is known for its generosity?
- Jason said that generous people premeditate, they calculate, they designate and they emancipate their personal financial assets. How do we cultivate this type of generosity individually? What could happen in our city, if every individual at Red Rock Church had a generous heart?
- There is a sense of joy and peace for those that are generous people. What is the connection between a generous heart and the sense of peace and joy? Why are these so closely intertwined?
- Generosity is not about the number. A generous heart has a vision for people. How do we then, as people who want to have a generous heart, cultivate a vision and a heart that is broken for people who need to know the love and hope of Jesus?
- How can this group help you take steps to move towards a heart of generosity and/or keep you focused on the "why" of generosity?

MOVING FORWARD

We have a God who is so generous with his love and grace to us. Ultimately everything we have financially in this life comes from Him. As we want to be generous people, we need to make sure that we are not generous for the sake of a check box. We need to be generous because people matter to God so much that he died for them and rose from the dead so that they could have a relationship with him. Invest in what will last, not just in this life but in eternity.

LIVE IT OUT

Memorize: Matthew 6:21

Journaling: Take some time this week to list out all the people who have been generous to you. Write down all the ways that God has been generous to you. Take some time to thank God and thank those people.

Prayer: Ask God to give you a generous heart that has a vision for the things that matter to him.

Accountability: Take a practical step this week towards being generous by filling in the following blanks that Jason talked about in regards to what you feel like God is asking you to do financially as it relates to generosity...

GIVE - ___%

SAVE - ___%

LIVE - ___%