Generosity Making someone's day

READ 1 TIMOTHY 6:18

Do you remember those birds from Finding Nemo that say, "Mine! Mine! Mine? Mine?" It's hard sometimes to not be like those birds, isn't it? Especially when it's something we love or something we've worked hard for. We just want to grab whatever it is and with a closed fist say, "MINE!"

But this month's verse reminds us that RICH people share. And RICH doesn't just mean someone with lots of money. Because if you follow God and understand how much He loves you, you are rich! God loves you and has given you so much, so you should love and give to others too.

Grab a piece of paper and trace your handprint in the center of the page. Inside the hand, write the words of today's verse as a reminder to be willing to share with an open hand and giving heart.

THANK God for the opportunity to share with others because you've been given so much.

READ MATTHEW 6:1

There are lots of ways to give. You can be as creative as you'd like when it comes to making someone's day. In fact, one creative way to give is to do so in secret.

So here's you secret mission for the day. Pull out another one of those paper scraps from week one. (You remember, the ones with the names you wrote down?). Are you looking at the name? Okay, think of ONE thing you could give in secret to this person in the next twenty-four hours. You could give your time. You could give a gift like some candy or a small toy. You could even give some money from your piggy bank.

Remember, the challenge is to give in secret! So get creative and get busy being generous.

ASK God to help you think of something to give and to decide how to give it in secret.

DAY 1

DAY 2

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READ ACTS 2:45

The early church didn't have much. Most all of its members were poor. So they had to get a little creative with their generosity. In these verses, what did they do to come up with some extra cash?

They sold some stuff! And then they gave to those in need. They saw a need, they got creative and they figured out a way to help. They didn't let their lack of funds slow them down or wait for someone else to meet the needs around them. And they didn't hold onto their stuff because they were worried about not having enough. They knew that God would take care of them and that He would provide for them because of their willingness to give.

How did your challenge from yesterday go? Did you find a way to give something in secret?

LOOK for ways to give creatively this week.

READ PROVERBS 11:24-25

Have you ever read the book "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie"? In the book, it warns you NOT to give the mouse a cookie because it will lead to a whole lot of other things! When you finish that book, you might be convinced that giving something away could lead to losing everything.

But that's NOT what the Bible teaches. God's word shows us that those who give become richer and the person who refuses to give becomes poorer. Why? Because when you choose generosity, you're telling God that you trust Him to take care of you. And you're also showing others how important they are by putting them first and giving up what you have.

Unscramble the words from the verse below.

DAY 3

DAY 4