

SERIES: the POWER of GENEROUS MESSAGE: Wk2 The ANSWER was in the OFFERING

JESUS' GENEROSITY PAID FOR OUR GREED

Galatians 1:4 4 Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live. 5 All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.

That's **THE POWER OF GENEROUS---** **John 3:16** FOR GOD so Loved the World

Hebrews 12:2 NLT 2 We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

3 Think of all the hostility **he endured from sinful people** (US); then you won't become weary and give up.

HE ENDURED...SO THAT WE COULD ESCAPE! WE ENDURE SO OTHERS ESCAPE

We ENDURE b/c He ENDURED We SERVE b/c He SAVED We GIVE b/c He GAVE!

#1 BE GENEROUS LIKE JESUS (OR ROB OTHERS OF SEEING CLEARLY)

DEBUNKING the MYTH -Giving for Blessing VS Give OUT OF Blessing

Blessing is really just Received then REDIRECTED

2 Cor 8 1 Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. 2 They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.

3 For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will.

12 Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. Give according to what you have, not what you don't have.

#2 BE GENEROUS W/ WHAT'S AVAILABLE

We Give what's AVAILABLE not just what's ABUNDANT

1 Kings 17:8-16 8 Then the Lord said to Elijah, 9 "Go and live in the village of Zarephath, near the city of Sidon. I have instructed a widow there to feed you." 10 So he went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he asked her, "Would you please bring me a little water in a cup?" 11 As she was going to get it, he called to her, "Bring me a bite of bread, too." 12 But she said, "I swear by the Lord your God that I don't have a single piece of bread in the house. And I have only a handful of flour left in the jar and a little cooking oil in the bottom of the jug. I was just gathering a few sticks to cook this last meal, and then my son and I will die." 13 But Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you've said, but make a little bread for me first. Then use what's left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son. 14 For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the Lord sends rain and the crops grow again!" 15 So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her family continued to eat for many days. 16 There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the Lord had promised through Elijah.

#3 BE GENEROUS TO SEE GOD'S GLORY

2 Samuel 24 24 But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the LORD my God that have cost me nothing." So David paid him fifty pieces of silver for the

threshing floor and the oxen. **25** David built an altar there to the LORD and sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings. And **the LORD answered his prayer for the land**, and the plague on Israel was stopped.

THE ANSWER WAS IN THE OFFERING

Keep on OFFERING & Let God Keep ANSWERING