



**Series:** The Joy of Living a Generous Life

**Passage** Matthew 5:13-16, 38-48

**Title** Generous in Heart and Mind

**Speaker:** Dave Menard

**Discussion Starter:** Are there some new areas of opportunity where you see Jesus might be able to grow you, both (Through and In).. enabling you to be more generous towards others? If so, explain what impacted you most from this past week's message.

#### **What Path Will We Take** (Proverbs 11:25; Luke 6:38)

- Conformity, Isolationism and Generosity are the three potential paths Churches take when they are confronted with the overwhelming influences of the world. Which of the three paths do you see yourself going down most often and is there anything that is keeping you from the path of generosity?
- Do we really believe it is better to give than receive? If so, do you have some real life examples? What are some of the promises we have from God if we truly have a generous soul?

#### **Tasteful Luminaries** (Matthew 5:13-16; Proverbs 19:16)

- How does Jesus calling us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world equate to us being tasteful luminaries in the mission field where He has currently placed us? What is the core purpose of our being tasteful luminaries?

#### **What Hinders Our Generosity** (Matthew 5:38-48; Ephesians 1:7-8; Psalms 51:12; Psalms 145:17-20)

- Can a zeal for truth and justice hinder our generosity? Have you had any experiences where this has stopped you from being generous? If so...be honest....what are the most common reasons you come up with?
- How can we follow Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:38-48 on being one who is willing to let generosity outdo truth and justice even when it comes to someone stomping on our personal rights?
- Is it possible to hold on too tight to our Christian values to the point where we are building walls instead of bridges? Explain.

#### **Fruitful Life of Generosity** (Matthew 5:48; Proverbs 25:21-22)

- Explain how is generosity able to heal wounds?...especially in the context of relationships, and how does that lead to a more fruitful life?
- Why is it more important for us as Christians to be known for what we are FOR, rather than what we are against? How did Jesus demonstrate this principle in how He engaged with the surrounding culture in that day and age?