



**Part 5: The Extravagant Giver
Pastor Dave Patterson
Small Group Sermon Notes**

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

If it took you years to reach a certain point in your finances, make sure to give God time and room to repair, restore, and build them. Giving generously and being blessed abundantly are inseparable.

Blessed Life Objectives:

- 1. Live with Christ-centered/Biblical Financial views**
- 2. Be consistent and generous in their tithes and offerings**
- 3. Get to the place where you live DEBT FREE!**
- 4. Experience margin as a lifestyle**
- 5. Be savers** (short--medium--long-term plans)
- 6. Be "life stewards"** (managing well all that life entrusts to us: talent, passion, time, resources, and gifting)
- 7. Become an "extravagant giver"** (giving in response to the grace we have received)

[Acts 2.44-45]

And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.

[Acts 4.32-35]

*All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what **they owned was not their own**, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of The Lord Jesus, and **God's great grace was upon them all**. There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need.*

[1 John 3.1]

*See what **great love the Father has lavished on us**, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!*

[Luke 7.36-50, NLT]

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!" Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people--500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn't greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. "I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that

he goes around forgiving sins?" And Jesus said to the woman, "*Your faith has saved you; go in peace.*"

Radical, consistent, and extravagant giving is intentional!

Example set by Mary Magdelene:

1. Her giving was a response to the grace she had received.
2. Her giving was intentional.
3. She gave in spite of rejection and criticism.
4. She poured out her offering in His presence. [Mark 14.3...*she broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head*]
5. Extravagant giving is always rewarded.

Extravagance is having, giving, or utilizing more than others. You have to get to a point where you just don't care about others' opinions. Extravagant givers care more about acknowledging who God is.

[Mark 14.9]

'And surely I tell you, wherever the Gospel is proclaimed in the entire world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.'

Extravagant love gives extravagant gifts and it seems reasonable. When grace has captured our heart, we want to please God with all that we have.

[Matthew 16.27, AMP]

*"For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory, majesty and splendor of His Father with His angels, and then He will render account and **reward every man in accordance with what he has done.**"*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Has God done anything in your finances already through the application of principles from *The Blessed Life* book or messages? Where have you put them into effect?**
- 2. Of the seven Blessed Life Objectives from this week's message, which hit home as an area of focus for you in this season?**
- 3. How should "great grace" influence our giving? (Grace requires a response.)**
- 4. What does it look like for you to take responsibility and spiritual authority in the area of generosity for your household and your spheres of influence?**
- 5. How can money lose its value, depending upon who it is given to?**
- 6. What legacy of generosity would you like to leave? How is it measured by the people you have influenced?**