Ministry Brands®

12 Sermons to Inspire Generosity

Prompts, topics, and scripture segments that can transform how your church relates to giving.

As a church leader, you understand the important role giving plays in the overall discipleship journey, but that doesn't make it any easier to stand in front of your congregation and talk about money. So, how can you stay grounded in God's Word while teaching the importance of giving in today's world? In what ways can you improve your message to equip and encourage your church to grow in generosity?

In this resource we've compiled 12 sermon outlines to help you address the importance of generosity from a biblical perspective. Our hope is that this helps as you:

- Consider what giving means
- Dig into what the Bible says about generosity
- Guide your congregation to manage their finances responsibly
- Spark some important conversations about giving and receiving
- Grow your church giving among all types of givers
- Become an established church known for widespread generosity

As a bonus, we've included tips on how you can improve online giving with each sermon.

How to Use This Guide

Coming up with new sermons (especially a new series!) can take hours. Here, we're created 12 outlines to get you started.

Reflect on each topic then feel free to change each outline as you feel called. The titles, verses, and main points throughout can be adjusted to suit your style and theological background.

Each outlines includes:

- Suggested Title: What you can call the sermon
- **Topic**: Main subject(s) the sermon explores
- Scripture: Verse or text you can focus on for the topic

- Fundamental Message: A 1-2 sentence summary of the sermon
- Application Step: What the audience will be able to apply to their lives
- Call to Action: What next step you can encourage the audience to take within your church
- **Key Points**: Overall sermon outline
- Moment of Offering: Concept that will encourage giving at the moment of offering
- Online Giving: An extra tip for online giving

Now it's time to flip through these 12 sermon templates all about generosity and money. Let's dive in.

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Week 1- What is Wealth? [An Introduction to Giving]

A peek into Biblical perspectives of wealth vs money, and what they mean to God.

As a warm-up to exploring generosity in your church, you can start by facing the topic head-on. A strong spiritual foundation doesn't focus on money as a means to an end- but today, we all use money to survive. Even the church.

The Bible tells us that money can be used for righteousness or it can be a snare that corrupts the spirit. Thinking about money itself as evil does nobody any good. Paul told Timothy it's the *love* of money that is the root of all kinds of evil, not money itself.

Suggested Title: What is Wealth?			
Тор	ic(s): Money, Faith, Financial Perspective		
	Scripture: Various		
Fundamental Message:	How you view money affects your life & faith. Here are some Biblical perspectives on finances and earthly resources.		
Application Step:	Consider how money can be a blessing or a distraction in your walk with God.		
Call to Action:	Come back next week to explore what your financial motives are		
	Key Talking Points		
Intro:	What does money have to do with faith? How do giving and wealth correlate? Money is a tool we're to be responsible with.		
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: Money can reflect our values and morals. How we use the earthly possessions we have indicates of what we hold as important Proverbs 21:20 Anecdote/illustration Point 2: Money is to be used, not worshiped. How we use the earthly possessions we have indicates what we hold as important Colossians 3:5 Anecdote/illustration Point 3: Money is a symbol of exchange and trust between others. Matthew 25:14-30 Anecdote/illustration		

	Point 4: Money is not true wealth. Our worth is found in God and our eternal wealth is stored in Heaven. Deuteronomy 8:18 Matthew 6:19-21 Anecdote/illustration
Closing summary:	Money is a tool we can use to sustain ourselves, help others, and honor God. It's not the purpose of life.
Moment of offering:	Is your perspective more financial or more faithful? Can you begin trusting God with your money?

Week 2- Searching Your Motives [Biblical Generosity- What Does it Mean?]

A reminder that we are not to be lovers of money, but good stewards of it.

Sermon 1 explored what money could be— a tool to show thanks and a means of personal exchange in the world we live in. Now you can speak about the motives behind using money wisely before Sermon 3, which will reveal why all of this matters to God.

Some believers think those with great wealth are selfish or corrupted, while the needy are to be uplifted as morally "right with God." This is a great chance to remind your congregation that money doesn't dictate one's morality—only God can dictate the hearts and minds of man.

Suggested Title: Searching Your Motives		
Topic(s): Being stewards of God's provision		
Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:9		
Fundamental Message:	Nobody can know another's motives for money. Only God can search your heart.	
Application Step:	Don't compare your finances to others. Ask God to reveal your money motives to you.	
Call to Action:	Come back next week to learn why this matters; Submit a prayer request or praise before you leave today	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	In a society where status and riches tend to define people, only God can fully know their motives. Start to see your motives for what they are and follow God's commands.	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: Only God knows people's hearts. • You can't judge someone for how much money they have. • 1 Samuel 16:7 • Anecdote/illustration	

	Point 2: Knowing your motives allows you to heed God's will. • Whether it be with money or any other area of life, God demands we give because we've received. • Luke 12:47-48 • Anecdote/illustration Point 3: Love and gratitude: the best motivation • Philippians 4:12–13
Closing summary:	Leave judgment up to God. Notice God's provision in your own life.
Moment of offering:	Practice righteous money motives this week and give to a ministry

Week 3- Why Does Generosity Matter to God? [Biblical Generosity- Why Do We Give?]

A chance to make the connection between money and faithful generosity.

You've given your congregation a chance to pray and reflect on what money is as well as what their motives are when it comes to giving. Now it's time to speak on why the two matter to God.

There are many ways your church community can express gratitude that have nothing to do with financial donations. But a primary reason your ministry can thrive is because of incoming donations. Mention generosity as an act of charity *and* as an obligation in faith.

Next week you'll cover financial management, so this sermon helps your congregation start thinking about what areas of their lives they're being generous and other areas they may need to repent.

Suggested Title: What Does Generosity Mean to God?		
Topic(s): Generosity, Faithful Giving		
Scripture: Exodus 35:20-29		
Fundamental Message:	Generosity is a reflection of God's love for us. Giving back to the church is an act of obedience.	
Application Step:	Assess what areas of your life you're already generous with. Pray over how you still need to grow in generosity.	
Call to Action:	Express generosity to someone in your church family this weekend.	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	God reveals the most generous spirit of all. He gave us life, fulfills our needs, and promises eternal life. How can we express grateful generosity in return?	
Main Points + Supporting verses and	Point 1: Generosity is an expression of reverence and worship toward God. • 2 Corinthians.9:7	

illustrative analogies	Anecdote/illustration
	Point 2: Generosity is a testimony of our faith to the world.
	Matthew 5:18
	Anecdote/illustration
	Point 3: Believers bless themselves and others with acts of grateful giving. • Proverbs 11:25 • Anecdote/illustration
Closing summary:	We are to give as Christ gave to us.
Moment of offering:	Generosity matters to God. Today, you can express it during the weekly offering.

Week 4- Managing Our Earthly Blessings [What is Stewardship?]

A message of encouragement that being financially responsible is an act of faith.

The truth is a lot of people can't be as generous as they want to be. When times are challenging, it takes a lot of faith and willingness to continue a regular giving routine. If people have encouragement and resources to improve their financial management, they'll be able to understand *what* goes to the church and what stays in their bank for everyday life.

This sermon is about financial management and being responsible with our resources. It isn't an easy topic, but it's an essential part of learning how to manage (and improve) overall giving.

Suggested Title: Faithful Financial Management		
Topic(s): Responsibility, Discipline, Gratitude		
Scripture: Various		
Fundamental Message:	Being a good steward of your blessings involves managing your finances. There's always room to grow in maturity and discipline.	
Application Step:	Get familiar with your finances, for it's a part of growing up.	
Call to Action:	Ask a mentor or leader to help you set up a monthly church giving amount if you don't have one yet.	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	Last week we discussed generosity. One way to be more generous is to know how much you're taking in and spending each month. Financial management is important to God because it helps you live freely and give to others without strife.	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: Being responsible with resources is a sign of self-discipline. • Luke 14:28-30 • Proverbs 6:6-8	

	Point 2: Saving leads to diligence and wisdom. • 1 Corinthians 16:2 • Proverbs 21:20 Point 3: Planning saves you & your loved ones from anxiety & strife. • Proverbs 13:11 • Anecdote/illustration
Closing summary:	You don't need a large income to start managing your resources. Start where you are and remember everyone has something to give.
Moment of offering:	If you can't give today, you can give next week by using our online giving app.

Week 5- Inventory of Gratitude [Heart of Gratitude]

A lesson in taking personal inventory of our finances and earthly resources to improve acts of gratitude in our lives.

Sermon 4 might've come as a shock to some people, so the next one is a time to reflect and be thankful. Encourage your congregation to take personal inventory of all the blessings they already have in their lives—both physical blessings and spiritual.

You can also use this sermon as a chance to share success stories or public expressions of gratitude to the generous givers who have blessed your church with their finances over the years. People are inspired by others' generosity, and faithful givers deserve a little "thanks" every now and then.

Suggested Title: Inventory of Gratitude		
Topic(s): Gratitude, Blessings, God's Love		
Scripture: Ecclesiastes 5:18-20		
Fundamental Message:	Every person is blessed in some way, and according to God, every person is a blessing.	
Application Step:	There's always something to be grateful to God for. Learn to slow down and acknowledge it.	
Call to Action:	Take inventory of what you're grateful for in your life.	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	It's difficult to feel gratitude in times of hardship or despair. But God commands us to be grateful in all things. How can you be more grateful for God's work in your life?	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: God has provided throughout all generations. • Daniel 2:23 • Psalm 100:5 Point 2: God instructs us to be rooted in gratitude. • Philippians 4:6-7	

	• Colossians 2:6-7
	Point 3: Good work is a sign of gratitude. • Hebrews 13:15-16 • Anecdote/illustration
Closing summary:	Gratitude inspires generosity. God's children are commanded to meditate on their blessings daily.
Moment of offering:	Share a praise of gratitude; Give an expression of thanks to your church this weekend.

Week 6- Faithful Givers and Receivers [Heart of Thanksgiving]

The importance of giving and receiving as a spiritual and relational obligation.

Receiving is just as much a spiritual act as giving is. If we aren't open to receiving the grace and blessings God presents in our lives, we do ourselves a disservice by resisting the outcome of His will. In sermon 5, your church evaluated their gratitude. In this sermon, it's time to talk about receiving as an act of faith, relationship, and goodwill, both with God and others.

Church leaders can also learn a lot about receiving. It takes humility to accept generous gifts that seem astronomical or unbelievable. But God works miracles when the church follows His call, so receiving is a righteous response to church offerings.

Suggested Title: Faithful Givers & Receivers		
Topic(s): Gratitude, Reciprocity, Relationships		
	Scripture: Various	
Fundamental Message:	Giving and receiving are two sides of the same coin. Both are fundamental to the human and spiritual experience.	
Application Step:	Refusing to receive money or good deeds might seem humble, but it can result in avoiding God's goodness.	
Call to Action:	Receive the next favor or financial blessing that comes your way.	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	Faithfulness requires both giving and receiving.	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: Giving and receiving is a natural law. Luke 6:38 Anecdote/illustration Point 2: Every gift is from God. Deuteronomy 8:18 James 1:17	

	Point 3: God loves and gives so all may have the chance to receive. • John 3:16-17 • Anecdote/illustration Point 4: Jesus said, "it's more blessed to give than to receive." • Acts 20:32-35
Closing summary:	Sometimes, the most faithful thing we can do is simply receive. Generosity involves receiving, not just giving.
Moment of offering:	Share something you've received lately

Week 7- The Heart of Church Generosity [Knowing Your Impact]

Some stories of how generous church giving has changed the community and the world.

This sermon is a time to share various stories and examples of how the heart of generosity has influenced the church throughout history. Your congregation may find it interesting to learn about all the wonders God has done throughout the world simply by faith and generous action. The church has given beyond belief for centuries, and giving is a testimony of faith.

Suggested Title: The Heart of Church Generosity		
Topic(s): Love, Generosity, God's Church, Christian History		
Scripture: Acts 4:32-35		
Fundamental Message:	The church has been sustained through generosity for thousands of years, and this powerful model of giving continues today.	
Application Step:	You can be part of the eternal movement of God's love through sharing in the heart of generosity in your church.	
Call to Action:	Give to your home church as an act of gratitude and thanks.	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	Generosity doesn't always mean money. The heart of generosity has pushed the church through millennia, and it continues today.	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: The early church was joyfully generous even in poverty. • 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 • Anecdote/illustration Point 2: A generous church gives to the poor. • Proverbs 19:17 • Anecdote/illustration Point 3: Generosity is measured by the impact of giving, not	

	by the amount. • 2 Corinthians 9:8-9 • Anecdote/illustration
Closing summary:	The church is and always has been most impactful when its members give as generously as they can!
Moment of offering:	How much are you willing to give to equip the church to serve the world today?
Impact Report Feature:	Take this opportunity to highlight Impact Reports to share how and where donations are going. This is a customizable Forms feature in your giving dashboard. Click here to learn more.

Week 8- Generosity in Every Season [Biblical Generosity]

An overview of the 4 types of giving, as well as the importance of each in the eyes of God.

There are four types of giving in the Bible: tithes, seed offerings, first fruits, and alms. Every giver at your church is likely to be prone to one or two types of giving throughout the year. Some givers are diligent tithers; others may only do "almsgiving" a few times per year and remain completely anonymous.

It's important to encourage every type of giving throughout your church. This sermon educates and edifies your congregation on remaining generous in every season, according to their giving preference— while also igniting everyone to branch out into new types of giving.

Suggested Title: Generosity in Every Season		
Topic(s): Types of Giving, Generosity, Charity, Supporting the Church		
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15		
You reap what you sow, so learn your optimal type(s) of giving and express generosity to the church.		
Identify what type of giving you lean toward naturally and challenge yourself to give in a different way.		
Try to give in all 4 ways this year!		
Key Talking Points:		
There's no good or bad way to give to the church, but there are different types of giving. God sees every act of generosity and blesses each act of obedience.		
Point 1: Tithes are a tenth of what you earn. Tithes = one-tenth of your income donated to your church; typically, every paycheck or every month. • Leviticus 27:30 • Anecdote/illustration Point 2: Offerings express extra gratitude. • Psalm 96:7-9		

	Anecdote/illustration
	Point 3: First fruits encourage giving first. Whatever you receive, giving is encouraged before you organize the rest of your budget. • Proverbs 3:9-10 • Anecdote/illustration
	Point 4: Almsgiving helps those in need and is not performed for personal recognition. • Luke 18:22
Closing summary:	Every type of giving matters to God.
Moment of offering:	Choose which type of giving you want to give to the church this week.

Week 9- Finding the Courage to Give [Courageous Giving]

A message on courageously giving, even during times of hardship.

It takes courage to give. But should people still give during times of debt, catastrophe, or hardship? The Bible encourages believers to fully trust God and continue to give with a grateful spirit. Sometimes, the courage to give in times of hardship is the most beautiful example of faith.

In this sermon, you can console those who are in need by sharing how other church members have stepped in through different circumstances. The church is one body, and every member supports another. Let the Holy Spirit guide you in equipping your church with the courage they need to support one another through generosity.

Suggested Title: Finding the Courage to Give			
Topic(s): Hardship, Faith, Fellowship, Courageous Giving			
	Scripture: Mark 12:41-44		
Fundamental Message:	There are times when your faith may be challenged, and God calls you to still sacrifice your comfort for the church community.		
Application Step:	Your faith is strengthened when you courageously give despite the human temptation to withhold.		
Call to Action:	Help someone in need, even if it takes courage.		
	Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	Sincere joyful giving happens in times of struggle. Our resources aren't ours to keep or rely on; they're God's, and we are to rely on Him.		
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: What we have belongs to God, so trust everything to be worked out for your good. • Jeremiah 29:11-13 • Anecdote/illustration		
	Point 2: When one person suffers, the whole church suffers. • 1 Corinthians 12:26		

	Anecdote/illustration
	Point 3: Giving reveals our love for our brothers & sisters in Christ. • Leviticus 25:35-37 • Anecdote/illustration
	Point 4: Giving a seed offering will prove to be prosperous in time. • Zechariah 8:12
Closing summary:	It's not always easy to be grateful or generous. But Christ gave His life so we could freely live, so we continue to freely give.
Moment of offering:	Give what you can, even if you're experiencing hardship. Your gift will help others in your situation or worse, and God will increase.

Week 10- The Gift of Tithing [Building a Culture of Generosity]

An overview of tithing & giving traditions, and how they help grow the ministry as well as the individual.

The Old Testament and New Testament both mention the purpose of tithing. Tithing gives back to God all the abundance he has placed in our lives. Instead of Old Testament sacrifices, today we have the gift of Jesus Christ to ensure our right-standing with God. Tithing is not for earning God's love, but a humble expression of our gratitude *for* His love He already promises.

This sermon covers some verses about tithing and how you can build a culture in your church that has a generous mindset. There are many, so use the Biblical texts that are most significant to your church.

Suggested Title: The Gift of Tithing		
Т	Topic(s): Tithing, Discipline, Generosity	
Scripture: Various		
Fundamental Message:	God commands his followers to be diligent and tithe.	
Application Step:	View tithing as a gift you <i>get</i> to offer to the church and to God, as it spreads generosity throughout the ministry.	
Call to Action:	Set up a tithing habit if you haven't already.	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	Is tithing an outdated, traditional practice? It's more relevant today than in the OT.	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: Tithing honors the Lord. • Proverbs 3:9-10 • Anecdote/illustration Point 2: Tithes are holy to the Lord. • Leviticus 27:30 • Anecdote/illustration Point 3: Tithing is an important thing, but it's not the important thing.	

	 Tithing can become an act of self-righteousness if we do it for show. What really matters is giving in meaningful ways that supplement our faith. Matthew 6:1–4
Closing summary:	Tithing is a symbol of trust and reverence to God.
Moment of offering:	Give your tithes in the offering plate or online

Week 11- The Eternal Reward [Building a Culture of Involvement]

A powerful sermon on Christ's sacrifice as the ultimate gift of eternal life.

We're able to give because Christ first gave to us. What does it mean to give something that results in an eternal reward? Spiritual sacrifices like tithing and giving to the church reflect the ultimate sacrifice Christ made so we can have eternal life.

This sermon welcomes newcomers to give their lives to Christ through the redemption story. It also encourages the congregation to view giving from an eternal perspective and being an involved contributor to the kingdom of God.

Su	Suggested Title: The Eternal Reward		
Topic(s): Heavenly Treasures, Christ's Sacrifice, Kingdom Focus			
	Scripture: Matthew 6:19–21		
Fundamental Message:	There's no greater gift than God sacrificing His son to welcome everyone into eternal life.		
Application Step:	View giving from a heavenly perspective, as that's what matters most.		
Call to Action:	Receive the eternal gift of life. Or if you already have, you can give throughout your time on earth knowing it will be stored in Heaven.		
	Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	All this talk of giving really comes down to one thing: Christ's death and resurrection.		
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: Christ is the only foundation that lasts. Building on wealth alone is not enough. • 1 Corinthians 3:11-14 • Anecdote/illustration Point 2: God sees your heart and will reward you eternally. • Matthew 6:4-6 • Anecdote/illustration		

	Point 3: There is redemption and reward for those who come close to God. • Luke 6:35 • Ephesians 1:7–8 • Hebrews 9:15
Closing summary:	We love because God first loved us; we give because God first gave.
Moment of offering:	Don't feel obligated to give if you're new, but we'd love to welcome you to the eternal church family! Introduce resources for online giving for existing members.

Week 12- Living and Giving as Christ Did [Building a Culture of Consistency]

A message on going out into the world and living generously in every way, as Christ lived.

Christ commands His disciples to go out into the world and spread the good news of the Gospel. Whether on campus, in the local community, or across the globe, it takes financial resources to spread the message of love and redemption.

Churches sometimes struggle to get enough donations to reach their full potential in living and giving as Christ gave. To close out this sermon series, here's a message to launch your church into Christ-like living and encourage consistent generosity for years to come.

Suggesto	Suggested Title: Living and Giving as Christ Did	
Topic(s): Righteous Living, Giving, Generosity, Outreach		
Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20		
Fundamental Message:	Believers make disciples of others by being a good example and sharing the message of Christ.	
Application Step:	Be generous with your testimony, your giving, and your love for Christ.	
Call to Action:	Go live as Christ lived	
Key Talking Points:		
Intro:	Living and giving are part of walking with Christ. How does He command us to live and give as He did?	
Main Points + Supporting verses and illustrative analogies	Point 1: We are to walk as Jesus walked. • 1 John 2:1-6 • Anecdote/illustration Point 2: We are to give ourselves as Christ gave Himself up for us. • Ephesians 5:1 • Anecdote/illustration	

	Point 3: We are to live like Christ— by loving others. • 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 • Anecdote/illustration
Closing summary:	God shows us that giving is the highest form of love through His son, so that we may be redeemed and live as He did.
Moment of offering:	As a church, we exist to give as Christ gave. Contributing to the ministry helps us continue to share this good example.