

LIVE GENEROUSLY

Matthew 10:8 (The Message) ⁸ Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously.

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The invasion of Life-Light

John1:1-5(ESV) ¹" In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

The invasion of the Life-Light

John1:1-5(ESV) ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome

Kingdom of darkness = death

Matthew 4:15-16(MSG) ¹⁵ Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, road to the sea, over Jordan, Galilee, crossroads for the nations. People sitting out their lives in the dark saw a huge light; sitting in that dark, dark country of death, they watched the sun come up.

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Kingdom of light = life

Matthew 4:15-17 (MSG) ¹⁷ This Isaiahprophesied sermon came to life in Galilee the moment Jesus started preaching. He picked up where John left off: "Change your life. God's kingdom is here."



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Kingdom of darkness = death

Infant mortality, stunted physical and mental growth, death to curable diseases, vulnerability to sex trafficking and slave labour, violence against women and children, substance abuse, neglect of orphans and physically and mentally handicapped people....

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Kingdom of darkness = death

The Global Report for Research on Infectious Diseases of Poverty "Poverty creates conditions that favour the spread of infectious diseases and prevents affected populations from obtaining adequate access to prevention and care. Ultimately, these diseases...disproportionately affect people living in poor or marginalised communities. Social, economic and biological factors interact to drive a vicious cycle of poverty and disease from which, for many people, there is no escape."

Poverty = slavery to no options

Holy Spirit priority

Luke 4:18 (ESV) ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because *he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor*. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed....

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Clash of opposing kingdoms

John 10:10 (AMP) ¹⁰ The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows].







The impact of living generously

- 1. Invasive / incarnational and confrontational / counter-cultural
- 2. Transformative / continuous
- 3. Communal / partnership
- 4. Transgenerational / outlasts our own lives

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1. Invasive and confrontational

Luke 9:23 (AMP) "If anyone wishes to follow Me (as My disciple], he must deny himself (set aside selfish interests), and take up his cross daily (expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come) and follow Me (believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me).



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1. Invasive and confrontational

The spirit of generosity (the Spirit of Christ) invaded and confronted <u>his spirituality and his</u> <u>professional life</u>. It flowed from his prayer life into his budget, his time, his career and his very future.

1. Invasive and confrontational

At its essence, the gospel to the poor: this lifestyle of generosity, is **invasive and counter cultural**. There is no way we can expect to <u>live</u> <u>it, really live it</u>, and not have it disrupt our family routines, our holidays, our priorities, our board meetings, our budgets and even the way we do church, family and business.

2. Transformational

Romans 12:2 (MSG): ² Don't become so welladjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out.

transformed and progressively changed (AMP)



2. Transformational

Clash of kingdom of light vs kingdom of darkness:

- Fatherlessness and sense of illegitimacy
- Alcohol abuse and marital disintegration
- Sexual abuse
- Poor education
- Political segregation

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DOING SMALL THINGS Matthew 25:40 (The Message) ⁴⁰ Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things <u>to someone</u> <u>overlooked or ignored</u>, that was me—you did it to me.'

DOING SMALL THINGS

- Are you ready to receive an anointing to live generously?
- Are you willing to be invaded and confronted by the spirit of generosity?
- Where do you need to be transformed by the gospel?

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The impact of living generously

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Generosity shapes faith in God

Romans 8:31 (ESV)⁸ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

3. Communal generosity

Ephesians 2:18-19 (Berean Bible) ¹⁸ For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. ¹⁹Therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens of the saints and members of God's



3. Communal generosity

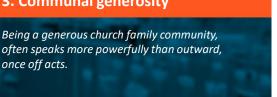
1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (Berean Bible) ⁶ I planted the seed and Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

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3. Communal generosity

often speaks more powerfully than outward, once off acts.









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3. Transgenerational generosity

Psalm 145: 4 (ESV) ⁴ One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.