

Generosity

*Making someone's day
by giving something away*

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-3

DAY 1

"Did you clean your room?"
Excuse: "I had to finish my homework."

"Did you take out the trash?"
Excuse: "I forgot."

Do you ever make excuses like these? Sometimes when something is asked of us, it seems easier to think of all the reasons why we can't when we know we should. Excuses are the easy way out.

The people in the early church could have made excuses about giving to others because they had very little. But instead, what did they do? They gave freely. They gave as much as they could. No wait, they gave MORE than they could, completely on their own.

Maybe when you hear the word generosity, you think "But I don't have very much to give. How can my small amount ever make a difference?" That's just an excuse. Because the amount you give isn't what's important. It's your willingness to give freely. To give as much as you can. Maybe even more than you think can. On your own. No excuses. Don't miss your chance to give.

THANK God for the opportunity to give.

READ ACTS 20:35

DAY 2

It is better to give than to _____.
E R I V E E C

That means it's better to GIVE than to GET. It's better to be generous and willing to share. Don't believe it? Here's a little challenge for you.

Grab a box and head to your room. Look around and fill the box with toys and clothes you've outgrown. Make sure that the things you grab are in good shape. No broken toys or missing parts or clothes with holes or stains. When your box is completely full, let your mom or dad check it out to make sure the things you've chosen are okay.

Now, here's the REAL challenge. Would you be willing to give this box away to someone in need? Is there any part of you that wants to keep some or all of what's in the box? Once your parents have checked out and approved the items you've selected, set your box outside the door of your room WITHOUT removing anything.

ASK God help you be generous so you don't miss a chance to give to others.



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READ 1 JOHN 3:17

DAY 3

Did you fill a box yesterday? Is it still sitting untouched outside your bedroom door? If so, awesome. If not, why?

Let's take this challenge OUTSIDE of your bedroom. Ask your Mom if you can fill ANOTHER box. Maybe you have some canned goods or boxes of pasta or other dry goods in the pantry. Maybe there are coats you've outgrown in a closet. Ask your mom and dad to help you fill another box with items you could give to someone in need. Remember, same rules as yesterday apply today. Only choose things to give away that someone could use.

Set this second box next to the first one. Tomorrow, you'll talk about what to do with the things you've gathered.

LISTEN to God's word and follow what it says about being generous and giving to those in need.

READ DEUTERONOMY 15:10

DAY 4

Maybe you've read today's verses and you think, "But I don't know anyone that's needy?" Or maybe you live in a neighborhood where you see needs all around you. Maybe you or your family have been in need before. God wants you to be tender and loving towards people in need. When we see a need, He's asking us to do something to help.

Gather with your family around the boxes you've filled. Talk about where you could take them as a donation. Is there a homeless shelter that could use those warm coats? Is there are foster care ministry or local women's clinic that could use those toys or outgrown clothes? Talk about where you could go and make a plan to take them together as a family. If possible, ask the people in charge to tell you a little bit about the people they serve. Don't miss your chance to give and to find out about the needs around you.

KNOW that God sees your generosity and He LOVES it when you choose to give to others in need.



Don't miss your
chance to give.

