



TEACHING & NURTURING GENEROSITY

Generosity is not just a week, it is a lifestyle and a culture that needs to be deeply embedded into every Christian community. This comes about by regularly preaching and teaching on the subject as well as modelling and setting an example in every day life.

Raising the subjects of generosity and financial giving is something that needs to be done with sensitivity and care. Too many churches are put off from talking about giving because of negative past experiences.

It is important to establish strong biblical and motivational reasons for asking people to give, rather than relying on people to give out of a sense of duty or obligation.

The Generous Giving Team have developed a range of resources to help clergy and church leadership teams raise the subject of generosity with confidence and sensitivity.

Sermon plans

Sermon plans have been developed for those Sundays during the year where one of the lectionary Bible passages is particularly suited to exploring the theme of generosity. These comprise half a page of brief notes that can be edited and expanded by the user. It is anticipated that Sundays for future years will be added later.

Sermon videos

Pre-recorded video sermons are available for the same Sundays for those with the necessary equipment. These may be particularly useful for churches in vacancy, to cover a clergy holiday, or for occasions where it would be helpful to have an alternative speaker from outside the church.

Courses

Two courses are currently available to download. “Exploring Generosity” comprises four modules and can be run at any time, whereas “Surprised by Generosity” is a seven-module course specific to Lent.



Motivational videos

Originally created for Generosity Week 2022, this collection of eight films (consisting of short talks, 6-7 minutes long) are an informal way to explore the theme of generosity and help us understand more deeply the link between personal financial generosity and growing in our faith as children and disciples of God. The series can be used in a variety of settings including church away days, PCC meetings, deanery synods or as an introduction to a Giving Review.

'Where Your Heart Is' booklet

The transcript of the motivational talks is also available in booklet form which can be downloaded from the website.



More help?

Most of all we like meeting people in person. Team members are available to present or run workshops at PCCs, Deanery Synods or other church events, or to preach at a Sunday service. Please do contact the team to explore possibilities.

The team are also willing to give one-to-one assistance and develop bespoke material to suit the particular needs and challenges of your parish or benefice.



Book reviews

The Generous Giving Team has compiled a list of books we've come across that can help deepen our understanding of generosity, and we give a short review for most of them. If you know of books you'd like to add to our list, please contact us.



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