



## Icebreaker:

What's your favorite way to stay warm on a bitterly cold day?

## Announcements:

If you haven't already, take time to go over the Creating a Healthy LifeGroup guidelines

## Prayer Time:

Pray for our building project as demolition begins soon in our east wing.

## Study Questions:

Why does Jesus talk so much about how we use our money? In what ways is our money not so much a financial issue but deeply spiritual issue? How have churches gotten things wrong– gotten things right– in their conversations about money?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–11.

V. 6– Discuss this sowing and reaping principle. What happens– for example– if we sow sparingly– give

little– to our 401k or retirement funds? What happens if we so sparingly– give little– in our financial support of God's work? What do we reap when we practice radical generosity?

V. 7– what kind of giver does God love? Why? How do we feel when someone gives to us reluctantly?

V. 8–11– What is the purpose of our giving? What does God do for us in response to our generosity? What does our additional prosperity allow us to do?

Read Malachi 3:10–12. What do you see in these verses? What is to motivate our giving? (Cf. Malachi 1:2) How does gratitude enable us to be a cheerful giver? Why is it important to focus on what God has done for us and what He has prepared for us down the road rather than on our stuff now?

Statistics tells us that many believers do not tithe. What are the obstacles to radical generosity? How do you address those who say they “cannot afford” to give and tithe or that the check is “too big” if they tithe? Is God trying to bankrupt us?

According to Matthew 6:19–21 and 2 Corinthians 9:12–13 what opportunities do we miss when we don't tithe and practice radical generosity? Why is tithing, giving beyond a tithe, and practicing radical generosity a “*once in this lifetime only*” opportunity we will not want to miss. How will our earthly giving look to us when we are one day in heaven?

**Conversational Prayer:** Dear God help me...