Part 2 – The Generous Life
When you want to change the world

What do you do when you want to change the world?

- **Be generous.**

When God wants to change the world, he moves in generosity.

- **The purpose of the tabernacle of Moses was to provide a place where the people could worship and know God, be a witness to the world, and point us to Jesus.**

Exodus 35:4-9
Then Moses said to the whole community of Israel, "This is what the Lord has commanded: Take a sacred offering for the Lord.

Let those with generous hearts present the following gifts to the Lord:

Gold, silver, and bronze; blue, purple, and scarlet thread; fine linen and goat hair for cloth; tanned ram skins and fine goatskin leather; acacia wood; olive oil for the lamps; spices for the anointing oil and the fragrant incense; onyx stones, and other gemstones to be set in the ephod and the priest's breastpiece."

Exodus 35:20-22
So the whole community of Israel left Moses and returned to their tents. All whose hearts were stirred and whose spirits were moved came and brought their sacred offerings to the Lord.

They brought all the materials needed for the Tabernacle, for the performance of its rituals, and for the sacred garments.

Both men and women came, all whose hearts were willing. They brought to the Lord their offerings of gold—brooches, earrings, rings from their fingers, and necklaces. They presented gold objects of every kind as a special offering to the Lord.

- **Ask God to give you a generous heart.**

2 Corinthians 9:7
Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- **A generous heart wants to be part of what God is building.**

Exodus 36:3-7
They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning.

So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done."

Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from bringing more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

- **A scarcity mindset says, "I have to hold on because I might not have enough."**

- **An abundance mindset says, "God, in you, I always have enough."**

2 Corinthians 9:6-8
Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

- **When the hearts of God's people are stirred toward generosity, God provides more than enough to do the work.**

Exodus 40:34
Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

What does this have to do with the church today and changing the world?

- **Jesus is still building his church.**

Matthew 16:18
I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- **Since Jesus said he would build his church, why wouldn't we want to be part of what he gave his life to build?**

- **The mission is still very real.**

Matthew 28:18-20
Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- **There is still only one way to God.**

- **God's house should still be at the center.**

Acts 17:24
The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands.

- **Christ should be at the center of our hearts.**
- **Our church family should be central to our lives.**
- **Our church facility should be central in our city, where people find community, hope, and the love of Jesus.**