



# SIGNS OF LIFE

## About the Series

In this brief eight week series, Pastor Bryan will explore different topics that display to us what life from God looks like. The good news is that although sin and death are all around us, God has not abandoned us nor this world to be conquered by them. In his great love, he has intervened and initiated a new work by establishing a better Kingdom. The true King has come and placed these signs of life for us to see! In the next eight weeks, we will study the following topics:

- 12/23 **Incarnation** (God became one of us)
- 12/30 **Transformation** (God changes us)
- 1/6 **Community** (God welcomes us)
- 1/13 **Worship** (God is enjoyed by us)
- 1/20 **Love** (God loves through us)
- 1/27 **Reconciliation** (God makes peace through us)
- 2/3 **Generosity** (God gives through us)
- 2/10 **Mission** (God reaches the lost through us)

## This Week: Generosity (God gives through us)

On the day of Pentecost, Peter announced that Jesus is the true King who conquered death by resurrecting. Jesus initiated a new reordering of creation. The way God would inaugurate this new creation was through the Holy Spirit moving over the lives of His people, much the way He did over original creation (Gen. 1:2). God breathed new life into the way His people would view everything, especially their money.

Because God's nature is generous and giving, he remakes this Community (his Church) to reflect Him. Thus, the early believers would use the money they had (or would obtain) to serve the needs of one-another (Acts 2:43-45). Generosity is a measurable and tangible sign of life.

## Read Acts 2:44-47

All who believed were together and had all things in common. [45] And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need...they received their food with glad and generous hearts, [47] praising

God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

## Read 2 Corinthians 8:2-3,9

In a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity... [3] For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord...

[9] For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

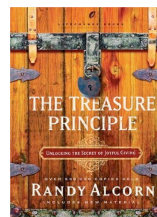
## Application: Answer the below questions:

- According to Acts 2:47 God's "adding to the church" seems to follow the generosity found within the church. Among other things, why do you think radical expressions of generosity would lead to the growth of the church?
- How does knowing the generosity of Jesus (who gave himself for you - 2 Cor 8:9) motivate generosity through you?
- Generosity is measurable. How generous are you with your money? Do you give regularly/joyfully to the mission of the Gospel? Why/why not? Discuss this as a group/family.

## Prayer

- Ask God to help you to appreciate His generosity toward you and to be more generous with your money/possessions toward others.

## Recommended Resources



**The Treasure Principle:** Randy Alcorn introduces readers to a revolution in freedom & radical generosity with this book. When Jesus told His followers to "lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven," He intended that they discover an astounding secret: how joyful giving brings God maximum glory and His children maximum pleasure.

## Community Group Discussion

- Read scripture together out loud.
- Involve your group by asking the questions & taking the time to share/respond.
- Pray together.

## Family Discussion

- Have a child/adult read the passage aloud.
- Involve them by asking questions.
- Ask for prayer requests, invite them to pray & sing a worship song together.