

Christmas at Real Life Generosity: The Prequel

December 12, 2021

Proverbs 11:24-25 | Matthew 2:1-12 | 2 Corinthians 9:6-9 | Colossians 3:13
Colossians 4:5-6 | Jude 1:22-23

God's generosity (provision/ blessing) is prepared for in advance.

Preparing for Generosity

- Generosity of my resources.
- Generosity with my compassion.
- Generosity with my time and encouragement.
- Generosity with forgiveness / grace.

I must predetermine generosity.

- Receiving
- Giving

This week look for ways to join the Advent Conspiracy by making it a part of your life.

Worship Fully by recognizing the wonder of God around you and in you.

Spend Less. Look for ways to give relationally to friends and family. Check out the list below!

Give More. Consider participating in the giving tree in the foyer.

Love All. Give the gift of invitation. Invite someone to join you in worship this season. Invite someone to share a cup of cocoa with you. Invite someone to your home to watch a Christmas movie with you (Elf, It's a Wonderful Life, A Christmas Story, How the Grinch Stole Christmas-*animated version*, A Charlie Brown Christmas) the key is to express love and care to others by giving of yourself.

The Gift of Presence

Take some time to intentionally slow down this Christmas season and enjoy the people God has put in your life with the following conversation starters:

1. What is the best Christmas you've ever had?
2. What forms of worship help you connect with God?
3. What's your favorite Christmas song and why?
4. In one word, describe what you want to experience this Advent season.
5. What are three things you're grateful for?

6. Out of the four tenets (Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, Love All) which one is the easiest for you? Which one is the hardest?
7. What's the most meaningful gift you've ever received?
8. What practical advice do you have for shopping intentionally and thoughtfully?
9. Share the story of one of your family Christmas traditions.
10. What's your favorite Christmas movie?
11. What are some obstacles you must overcome this Advent season?
12. Do you have any budget or parameters around Christmas shopping?
13. There's an anticipation that comes with Advent. In what areas of your life are you longing to see God at work?
14. What is one prayer you have for this Advent season?
15. How can you incorporate Scripture into your daily routine?
16. What was your favorite Christmas memory growing up?
17. If you could spend Christmas anywhere in the world, where would you go and who would you bring with you?
18. What's your favorite gift you've ever given someone else?
19. What are some special Christmas foods you grew up with?
20. What is one lesson God has taught you this year?

Real Life Prayer for 2021

As we journey together in 2021, let us continue to pray for a deeper, intimate, personal, and dependent relationship with the Lord – walking step by step with Jesus as He leads us through all that is to come this year.

In following Jesus as He builds on all He has done in and through us, let us step boldly! To that end, our word for Real Life church in 2021 is **impact**.

Lord, have impact in my inner self.

Lord, have impact in my trust in you and obey your leading.

Lord, have impact in the words of life and hope you give me.

Lord, have impact in my family.

Lord, have impact in our community.

In the name of Jesus we pray,

Amen.

Notes:
