

Story Overview & Discussion Guides

Start with “What stood out to you?” Let conversation around this question linger, creating space for participants to process what the Spirit may be doing in their hearts.

If necessary, ask another question. You will rarely ask all of the questions.

Bishop Hannington 6:02 min.

Shot on location in Bundibugyo, Uganda, this is a look into the story of Hannington Bahemuka, a man who was inspired by generosity to help rebuild his war-torn town.

What stood out to you?

What kind of emotions do you feel when you see people with so little be generous?

Can you imagine giving your only chicken, whatever that is in your life, for the building of your church or God’s kingdom?

Does fear of having too little hold you back from giving away more? Do these people with no savings or back-up plan inspire you? Why or why not?

Gary and Cath Grant 9:48 min.

Gary and Cath Grant started their London based toy store chain to make money and be successful. After meeting Christ in their 30’s they felt led to approach the business in a whole new way. Today, facilitating wider generosity is one of their driving passions and giving is at the core of this growing, thriving business.

What stood out to you?

Can you identify with Gary’s initial response to the idea of giving when he says, “It’s my money. I’ve earned it.”? If so, how?

Cath mentions that money can do so much more when it’s active. What might we do now to invest in our own legacies?

Why do you think Gary’s personal heart transformation affects his company culture?

Graham and April Smith 8:21 min.

It's safe to say Graham and April Smith found each other through generosity. They both love to give and some would say they live to give. Navigating cultural and practical differences, this young couple has a big vision and even bigger hearts to see generosity change the world.

What stood out to you?

Graham mentions that it has been liberating to avoid "golden handcuffs." How do your lifestyle or future lifestyle choices impact your sense of freedom to fully follow God's calling?

How do you respond to April's comment that an increase in income could raise our standard of giving rather than standard of living?

April contrasts the wisdom of "saving, saving, saving" against investing in kingdom work. How do you respond to the tension between saving and giving?

Greg and Alison Baumer 11:44 min.

As a young family just getting started, Greg and Alison Baumer made a decision to live in a way that to some may seem foolish. They want to be generous now and order their lives so they can be actively involved in funding kingdom projects today. Influenced by a community of other young professional friends who have decided to live a transparent, generous life shaped by friendship, community, and shared life experience, Greg and Alison are on an adventure with God and their friends.

What stood out to you?

Greg mentions he and Alison are more inclined to spend, whereas John is more inclined to save. Who do you most identify with? What drives you toward spending or saving?

Greg mentions that his car is a daily reminder that his value is not in his stuff, or how he looks in the eyes of others. Is there anything like that in your life?

How do you respond to the financial transparency of the Board of Directors for Life? What about that kind of transparency sounds exciting? What feels scary?

Handful of Rice 3:13 min.

A story of generosity of the poorest of the poor in India, focused on how their giving has made the church in Mizoram self-sufficient and able to support the work of the Gospel around the world.

What stood out to you?

How do you react to seeing the poorest of the poor giving from their rice to support missions around the world?

Does fear of having too little hold you back from giving away more? Do these people with no savings or back-up plan inspire you? Why or why not?

What do you think about the quote, "As long as we have something to eat every day, we have something to give God every day."? Do you live with that kind of abundance mentality, or do you find yourself thinking you would give more if you had more?

Jason and Leslie White 9:58 min.

Jason and Leslie White were part of a small, thriving church where God was transforming lives. When it was time to fund a building for the church, they knew they wanted to invest, so they spent time listening to God for His direction. In the end, they felt Him leading them to give the money from their children's college fund. Today, the church has five campuses and people are continuing to come to know the Lord there. They share what it meant to listen to God's call and take a step of faith.

What stood out to you?

Have you ever been a part of a ministry or church where you were inspired by what God was doing? Describe the experience.

What is your reaction to Leslie's realization that God has her kids in His hands?

The stock they sold in 2008 would be worth millions today. However, they have watched their church grow from a few hundred to over 10,000 regular attendees. What is your reaction to their decision to sell?

Jess and Angela Correll 9:28 min.

Jess Correll, chairman and president of First Southern Bancorp in Stanford, Kentucky, and his wife, Angela, discuss how God has redirected their lives and finances over the years. They share how they have integrated the joy of giving into both their family and corporate lives.

What stood out to you?

Has your pursuit of success cost you anything? If so, what?

How did you react to the Corrells' decision to give ten times what they spend on themselves?

One of Jess's partners mentions how the company gives stock through NCF to increase their giving potential. Have you ever considered giving a gift that wasn't just cash? If so, how and why?

What might giving money away recklessly look like for you?

If you're married, what could it look like to be intentional about planning and giving together?

Jimmy and Laura Seibert 5:39 min.

Jimmy and Laura didn't set out to raise a generous family, but to be people who followed Jesus. The results and the impact on their family have been compelling as they purposed to live simply, work diligently, and give generously.

What stood out to you?

Jimmy says, "We kind of became dependent on God's providing above and beyond." Can you think of a time you positioned yourself to be dependent on God? What happened?

Jimmy says that he and Laura taught their kids to "Work differently, live simply, give generously." What do you think about casting this kind of vision?

Jimmy and Laura don't save money. What is your reaction to that?

Katherine and Eugene Tsay 8:49 min.

As newlyweds who both work in the technology industry, these emerging leaders are living counter culturally and establishing ways to give generously of their time, home, and resources.

What stood out to you?

Katherine talks about how shifting from spending to giving is like building a muscle. What muscles seem most tight or underdeveloped in your life?

How do you react to Katherine and Eugene's decision to give 50 percent of their equity away?

Both Eugene and Katherine's giving journeys and faith journeys were influenced by close family and friends around them. Where do you see that influence in your own life?

Pete and Deb Ochs 8:46 min.

Pete and Deb Ochs share about their desire to use their whole LIFE (labor, influence, finance, and expertise) for kingdom purposes and model how they are doing this with the business they operate within a prison.

What stood out to you?

For financial accountability, Pete allows like-entrepreneurs to set his salary. How do you react to that idea?

L.I.F.E. Labor, Influence, Finances, and Expertise – Which of these aspects of your life is easiest to give freely and which is most difficult?

Pete describes himself early in life as a 90/10 guy, living on 90 percent and giving 10 percent to God. Can you relate to this idea? If so, how?

Renee Lockey 8:02 min.

Renee Lockey, a Texas physician, discusses what it means to live on a fraction of her salary while making a concerted effort to give the majority of it away.

What stood out to you?

What is your reaction to what Renee heard God say to her: “I want you to work like a doctor and live like a nurse.”?

If you put yourself in Renee’s shoes and think about living below your means in order to give more generously, what goes through your mind?

What are the benefits and risks of saving less aggressively?

Has anyone had an international experience that impacted your view of what God has entrusted to you?

What do you think contributed to Renee’s greater sense of freedom?

The Big Give Part 1 - Branden and Ashley Stathes 10:00 min.

What happens when a friend listens to the still small voice of God to take action on behalf of her friends? With a step of faith, a small Austin community pulls off a great act of generosity that shows the joy of giving is for both the giver and the receiver.

What stood out to you?

What touches your heart about this story?

One of Branden and Ashley’s friends said, “They received the gift of money, but we received the gift of joy and love because we gave.” Have you ever experienced those kinds of emotions in giving? What has been your experience?

Lucy shared how she was hurting for Ashley and felt the Holy Spirit say to her, “Well, do something about it.” Have you ever felt the Spirit nudging you to meet the needs of your community?

The Big Give Part 2 - Branden and Ashley Stathes 3:18 min.

When we give we glorify God. But sometimes God shows off with a story twist so good you have to share. In part 2 of the Stathes story, we hear what was going on behind the scenes while God powerfully worked in one family and blessed a whole community.

What stood out to you?

What has your experience been in relation to the belief that God meets our needs and actively takes care of us? How does that belief influence your actions?

Have you ever been part of giving or receiving a gift that felt like God's miraculous timing? How can we be available to be used in that way?

Tim Mohns 15:55 min.

Tim Mohns, a financial advisor, shares how a successful but self-proclaimed boring life is turned around when he embarks on a six-month experiment to clear the noise of money from his life and give more aggressively.

What stood out to you?

What do you think about Tim's six-month lifestyle experiment?

How do you relate with Tim in feeling bored or feeling like something is missing, even though everything seems to be in place?

What do you think about Tim's thinking that tithing is the pinnacle of giving?

Tom and Bree Hsieh 7:44 min.

Tom and Bree Hsieh may seem like the average American couple, but their lives are anything but typical. Having accumulated significant wealth in the technology era, they chose a different path that has led to more joy and freedom for their family.

What stood out to you?

Bree suggests that there is no formula for giving other than to ask Jesus and listen to Him. Does that feel scary? Intriguing? Inviting? How might you move further in that direction?

God surprised the Hsieh's with an amazing honeymoon after they made a lifestyle decision that changed their honeymoon plans. Do you tend to trust God to generously take care of you, or do you tend to feel like you need to take care of yourself?

What do you think about the decision the Hsiehs made to live on the median household income, despite great business success?

Tom Monaghan 6:50 min.

Tom Monaghan, founder of the Domino's Pizza franchise, shares his realization that what had driven him to succeed in life was really the desire to have more than everyone else. After seeing how prideful his heart had become, Tom took what he calls "a millionaire's vow of poverty"—dedicating his life to give away everything he has in order to help as many people as possible come to know Christ.

What stood out to you?

Can you relate with Tom's confession of being focused on impressing people?

Tom is making steps toward his commitment to die broke. What are the advantages and disadvantages of dying broke?

Tom says, "I believe I'm doing exactly what God wants me to do." How do you personally relate or not relate with this statement?