Journey *of Generosity*

TRAINING BOOKLET

THIS BOOKLET BELONGS TO:

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Welcome to Your *Facilitator Training*

We are delighted you have chosen to become a trained Journey of Generosity (JOG) facilitator. Your willingness to step into this role is a meaningful part of a growing movement to spark conversations around biblical generosity. Each year, over 1,000 volunteers partner with us to bring this message to communities across the continent, and the impact is real. Lives are transformed through these experiences, and research shows that staying involved as a volunteer not only transforms those you serve but also deepens your own journey of generosity and faith. We are grateful for your commitment and passion, and we are honored to co-labor with you in this work.

Pre-Work

Before your training begins, please complete the following:

- Read pages 4-13 of this booklet.
- As you read, take a moment to reflect on the questions below. You're welcome to jot down a few thoughts in your booklet—we may have a chance to discuss them during our time together.
    - Which of the "Six Core Messages" has most impacted your generosity journey?
    - Which of the "Five Key Elements of a Transformational Experience" do you think is most important?
    - Which of the "Principles of Facilitation" will be least natural (and most difficult) for you to embrace as you facilitate?
- Brainstorm who you could invite to your Launch JOG. A Launch JOG is the final step of the training and provides an opportunity to practice in person with family, friends, or colleagues. Refer to the Launch JOG Worksheet on page 17 and begin jotting down names. We will have time to fill out the rest of the worksheet and discuss it during the training.
- Write your JOG personal introduction. At the beginning of every JOG, facilitators introduce themselves by sharing a two-minute version of their own generosity story. You can make summary notes in your Facilitator Booklet on page 6. The personal details you share will vary based on the relationship you have with those in your group. (See an example on the following page)

Questions? Let us know if there is any way we can serve you.
Email us at **equipping@generousgiving.org**.

INTRODUCTION EXAMPLE

My name is Brad Smith. My family and I live in Houston, Texas. My wife, Julie, and I have been married for 20 years and we have three sons. Julie and I own and run a small business in Houston.

In 2022, we were invited to our first JOG by longtime friends and neighbors. It was hosted at a lake house not far from where we live, and the experience was restful and retreat-like. I loved the intimacy it cultivated among close friends. It also provided shared language for Julie and I to have conversations about money and giving that we never had before.

I decided to be trained because I wanted a way to stay in this conversation. I need to be reminded of this message, because I'm prone to forget. I'm excited to grow alongside you in this journey.

Facilitator Qualifications and Expectations

With the goal of creating excellent experiences for participants, we hold high standards for potential facilitators. As a facilitator, you must meet the following requirements:

- Have your own personal transformation story related to your giving journey.
- Attend a Journey of Generosity experience.
- Complete a Journey of Generosity Facilitator Training.
- Minimize any conflicts of interest. This experience will work best if the only agenda is greater generosity, not gifts to a specific church or ministry or transactions through a donor advised fund. Each facilitator is required to sign a Declaration of Neutrality agreement with Generous Giving.
- Fully understand that the focus of the event is in what we want for people, not what we want from them. Above all else, the single most important component of any Generous Giving experience is what happens within people's hearts. Money released to benefit God's mission is a blessed but secondary outcome of generosity conversations.

If you haven't been to a JOG in a while, familiarize yourself with these stories. They will come up during the training, but we likely won't watch them as a group.

- Tim Keller – The Gospel, Grace, and Giving
- Vinny & Soomin Hu
- Alan & Katherine Barnhart

Visit generousgiving.org/jog-videos for access to all videos in the JOG.

What We *Believe*

1. GIVING IS A HEART ISSUE

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. MATTHEW 6:21

Clearly, giving releases resources. And while the resources liberated through acts of generosity are a blessing, they are literally a by-product of the transformational power of generosity within the giver's heart. The true message of giving is the liberation of hearts.

As we move closer to God, it becomes easier to see that the things in which we invest our time, money, and energy are the things that matter to us most. They are often things that ensnare us and stand in the way of liberation from materialism. Remarkably, in much the same way your treasure reveals your heart, the purposeful reallocation of your treasure can be an effective way to guide your heart away from earthly values and toward more meaningful treasure.

As Randy Alcorn explains in *The Treasure Principle*, "My heart always goes where I put God's money." According to Alcorn, giving is not only an indication of where your heart is, but it is also a means of moving your heart toward God's generosity in a never-ending journey, expanding your heart to hold all the blessings of a closer walk with God.

2. GOD GAVE FIRST

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son... JOHN 3:16

God is the ultimate model for giving—the most generous of all givers. God's grace has blessed us with goods, skills, and opportunities to generate what we need in our lives, and a rich and wonderful world in which to live out His calling. But at a level of giving beyond anything we can fully comprehend, God gave His Son, whose life bought our salvation.

In 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Paul presents a model that explains the origin and result of our generosity. "You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and … your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" (v.11). God's grace and blessing is given so that we can be generous. As we are generous, we both supply the needs of others and show thanks to God (v.12), and others praise God because of our generosity (v.13).

God's giving to us is like the filling of a cup, and our giving to others reveals the cup running over. In the context of our own blessings and gratefulness, we learn to be generous givers. We didn't earn it; we never will. God's gift was the highest demonstration of unconditional generosity:

"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

3. GOD OWNS IT ALL

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. PSALM 24:1

Money managers administer assets for the benefit of the owner, but are always aware that the funds they handle are not their own. With all the attention you place on managing your money, how does your perspective change when you come to understand that it is not your money, your wealth, your possessions, or your assets, but instead that it all belongs to God?

We are God's money managers. The wealth of the earth and all its resources are entrusted to us, with the privilege to be stewards of its wise use. Our money is never ours to spend as we choose; our money is God's to spend as He directs.

4. SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. MATTHEW 6:33

In Matthew 6:24, Jesus reminds us, "You cannot serve both God and money." He adds in verse 25, "Therefore, do not worry about your life…" Jesus is assuring you that you do not have to worry about your earthly life because God has promised always to take care of you. And with earthly matters in God's control, you are free to pursue more spiritual matters, seeking first and above all else God's Kingdom and His righteousness through spiritual intimacy.

Intimacy with Christ offers the highest levels of satisfaction both right now and for eternity, but achieving it confronts us with the challenge to surrender our lives to Christ's Lordship. For many of us, the primary competitor for Lordship in our lives is money. We can even reframe it as security rather than materialism as we hold on to our fears and try to rationalize ways we may have managed money in the past.

But the space that we let money, wealth, materialism, and all its pursuits occupy in our lives is valuable spiritual real estate we could be surrendering to God. How is life different when Jesus is Lord compared to when money is lord?

5. HEAVEN, NOT EARTH, IS MY HOME

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. **PHILIPPIANS 3:20**

Life is short. Eternity is long. And my home is in heaven, where I will spend eternity. This simple yet radical thinking begs an important question: Why should I invest so much time, energy, and resources in what is short? Why should I focus on my (or even my children's) very temporary life here on earth when heaven is real and coming and calling?

Spending money on earth is not wrong, but it may not be the best option, and it is clearly not the only option. It isn't wrong for us to spend money on things that are temporary. However, if we have an eternal perspective and understand that heaven, not earth, is our real home, then we know that we can store up treasures in heaven where we (and those reached with the Gospel) can experience them for eternity.

A life of generosity—for all who know Christ—means the opportunity to draw closer to God, now and in eternity. It means joy, a fulfilled heart, and the potential to store up treasures in heaven.

6. GIVING BRINGS JOY

"...remembering the words the Lord Jesus Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" **ACTS 20:35**

"In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." (1 Timothy 6:19)

Your life becomes joyful, fulfilling, and purposeful as you live in God's calling. Joy is experienced in the act of giving, but even more so in the alignment of your heart with God's will.

As generosity comes into your heart, it blesses you in ways you know in the moment, in ways you recognize over a lifetime, and in ways that are revealed to you only in eternity. Generosity enables you to live in the joy of a "life that is truly life."

TO SEE THE GENEROSITY OF GOD DISPLAYED THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

We envision a movement of Christians who give extravagantly of all that they are in response to God's radical grace. Our primary motivation is to see people liberated to live and give in God's image in order to see God's Kingdom come on earth.

This growing movement will create a dramatic shift in culture:

- Christians will be known for extravagant generosity rather than consumption or accumulation.
- Young people will be organizing their lives around giving before they get caught up in the constant pursuit of more.
- People will be coming to know Jesus because the generosity of Christians is so compelling that they want to know the God who inspires it.

In addition to culture being shaped, individuals will be transformed and find greater joy, freedom, and purpose as they trade away saving and consuming on earth for eternal treasure in heaven. As a result, billions of dollars will be released for God's Kingdom—sharing the Gospel, serving the needy, and healing the world.

THE FIVE P'S

Keys to a *Transformational Experience*

At Generous Giving, we believe that only God—through the Holy Spirit—can bring true transformation in someone's life. Our role is to help create space for the Holy Spirit to speak.

Over the past 25 years, we have identified five key elements that make it easier for people to hear God's invitation to a new way of living—especially when it comes to money, possessions, and generosity.

PEERS

The most significant influence in touching people's hearts is peer influence.

Proverbs 27:17 states, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." We become like the people with whom we spend time. Facilitating environments where peers share their experiences without preaching to one another creates a unique and safe place for others to consider their own journeys. People are smart. We do not need to tell them what to do. Modeling among peers is the most important aspect in facilitating transformational experiences.

PERMISSION

Someone needs to give permission for people to talk about the issues no one ever talks about.

People tend to avoid discussing money. We have found that when permission is granted by the facilitator, there is most often an eagerness to wrestle with the issues of dealing with money in a God-honoring way. Many times, those who have been entrusted with much feel isolated or alone because they are in the minority. Creating the expectation that it is safe, okay, and even healthy to process these questions with like-minded believers is instrumental in creating a transformational experience.

PRESSURE-FREE

The JOG is solicitation-free and is provocative, not prescriptive.

There are two aspects of creating a pressure-free environment. The first is to never permit the solicitation of money or the marketing of favorite ministries while speaking to people about living a more generous life. The second is to never prescribe specific percentages. We trust the Holy Spirit and God's Word will take people where He wants them to go in their understanding and application of generosity. We never want to hinder someone from hearing God's voice because our voice was in the way. Rather, we want to help facilitate environments where people wrestle with God on these issues.

PROPHETIC

The message of biblical generosity is prophetic.

Jesus' call on our lives is absolute. The culture in which we live is contrary to almost all of Jesus' teaching. We are called to unapologetically carry this counter-cultural message with grace and truth and invite people to wrestle with the teachings of God's Word on these issues of money, possessions, and giving. We embrace the challenging teachings and compelling examples of generosity in Scripture. We live in the tension of grace and truth by being bold in asking tough questions and reticent to give simplistic answers.

PROVOCATIVE

We tell provocative stories of real-life people living extraordinary lives of generosity, joy, and sacrifice.

While related to peer influence, there is a need for specific examples of people embracing generosity in ways outside the normal experience of most givers. These stories can be communicated live or through some form of media. Provocative stories not only help illustrate what generosity might look like in our day, but they also point to the ultimate example of generosity: Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We have often heard the words, "I always thought I was generous until I heard that story." A story of radical generosity creates room in a person's life for self-evaluation and reflection. People begin to make observations and ask questions of themselves. Within this space, the Holy Spirit can begin to shape a person's thinking and actions.

Principles of *Facilitation*

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY
Invite and implore the Holy Spirit to orchestrate the details of the gathering and to give you wisdom in leading discussions. Pray for the wisdom to let God lead. If the Holy Spirit doesn't speak to people, the experience will be minimally effective.

LIVE IN THE AMBIGUITY OF THE QUESTIONS
Trust the Holy Spirit's work in people. As the facilitator, you will not have all the answers. This experience is only part of an ongoing journey for all of us.

INVITE PARTICIPATION FROM THE ENTIRE GROUP
If someone has not shared, don't be afraid to call on them to share as you get deeper into the experience, specifically in the second half. Oftentimes, the quiet ones say the most profound things. Give them a chance to do so once trust has been established.

PRIMARILY USE STORIES
Stories are nonjudgmental and nonthreatening. They enable both the listener and the storyteller to step outside their personality and daily role and become a character in a greater message. Stories allow people to try on new ideas, looking for choices that are a comfortable fit for where they are now in their personal journey, while envisioning the possibilities that lie ahead.

LEAD WITH WEAKNESS WHEN APPROPRIATE
When a facilitator shares his or her own struggles, it creates a safer place for others to do the same. None of us have arrived. Be willing to share the places where you have not arrived or are continuing to struggle with integrating the biblical message of generosity into your own life. Affirm the vulnerability of others by showing your own, beginning with your personal introduction.

THERE IS AN AGENDA
We are not asking for people to give us anything, so in that sense, a Journey of Generosity is a safe place. However, we are intentionally attempting to get participants to think differently about and loosen their grip on what God has entrusted to them.

GENUINELY CARE FOR THE PEOPLE IN YOUR GROUP
This event is not about you—it's about the people in front of you. Learn their names. Learn their hearts. Be sensitive to what is going on in their lives. Express gratitude, individually and personally. Thank them when they share and respond. Pray for them in quiet times throughout the experience. Let the Holy Spirit work through you as you focus fully on those in attendance.

ALLOW THE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE TO WORK FOR YOU
Allow the Holy Spirit to guide the time. You don't want the participants to feel as if you are behind schedule. The amount of discussion can be expanded or contracted based on time available and quality of discussions.

MAKE SPACE FOR MEANINGFUL BREAKS
Understand that much meaningful conversation takes place during meals and break times. These are an important part of the JOG schedule. Always stick to quoted break and end times. This establishes trust with your group.

NO TWO EXPERIENCES ARE THE SAME
This is part of the uniqueness of facilitating these experiences. Each experience is singular and shaped by the participants in the room. Enjoy the differences and do not attempt to force one event to be like another you may have facilitated in the past.

RELAX
Enjoy the process. This is God's work, not the facilitator's work.

TRUST THE PROCESS
You don't need to force a certain conversation, and you can't force someone's life to change. Don't try to make something happen; just trust the process and let God work.

JOG Overview Goals

Session 1

1. Establish a safe place.

2. Move from head to heart.

3. Begin to challenge existing paradigms about what generosity looks like.

Session 2

Challenge existing paradigms about what generosity looks like.

*Session 3**

1. Assert that we're all called to seek first God's Kingdom (by listening and obeying).

2. Assign questions to give space to listen.

Session 4

Challenge existing paradigms about what generosity looks like.

Session 5

1. Assert that we're all called to seek first God's Kingdom (by listening and obeying).

2. Practice the "discipline of silence" to give space to listen.

**If you are hosting a one-day or four session JOG, you will skip Session 3 and assign the 30 Questions after Session 2.*

Six Core Values *Applied*

JOY

- Facilitator believes that joy is found in biblical generosity
- Facilitator invites participants to discover the "life that is truly life" through a Journey of Generosity

GENEROSITY

- The host (who also serves as the facilitator in a Launch JOG) pays for meals and the venue
- Facilitator gives up time to volunteer with no personal agenda

AUTHENTICITY

- Facilitator shares from his/her heart and weakness (humility)
- Facilitator creates a safe space for honesty and vulnerability

GROWTH

- Participants grow as they are exposed to new ideas and listen to the Holy Spirit
- Facilitator grows in his/her own journey along with participants
- Movement grows as facilitator brings the conversation to his/her areas of influence and extends an invitation to share the message

EXCELLENCE

- Facilitator is well prepared and reviews materials in advance
- Facilitator runs technology well or has someone to help him/her

SPIRIT-LED

- Facilitator trusts that the group is being Spirit-led and therefore doesn't have to force the group along his/her own agenda
- Facilitator listens to God before and during the JOG about which questions to ask, videos to show, stories to share, etc.

OBSERVATIONS FROM A

Volunteer Facilitator

WADE STRZINEK

I was telling Rick (another trained facilitator) that there is just something about the overnight when the Holy Spirit really starts to go to work. I was a little worried throughout the first day because the group was being pretty quiet at times, more thinking than talking. I was worried that I wasn't asking good questions or that my questions were trying to take them deeper sooner than they were comfortable. But I remembered Rick talking about how the Holy Spirit can do just as much work helping them process everything during the overnight fellowship and sleepover as He can during the sessions themselves.

And that's what happened – our group all came out of their shells the morning of the second day with the 30 questions! There were a lot of great comments and you could tell that they were starting to "connect the dots!" By the end, I had about three people tell me they wanted to host a JOG of their own.

It was a great reminder to me as the facilitator to just be patient, follow the material, and let the Holy Spirit do His thing. I can't wait to see what God has planned for this group!

I am such a fan of the overnight JOG format. It's clear that the Holy Spirit uses the fellowship and "offline" discussions you have during the non-session time to draw people closer to the message. And there's just something about "sleeping on the message" – I have no idea what the Holy Spirit does exactly while we're all asleep, but He is definitely at work.

My encouragement to other facilitators is to just be patient and allow the group to wrestle with the Holy Spirit on this message. I felt tempted at times on the first day to go into "teaching mode" and just tell them what I've already learned because I didn't think some of them were connecting yet. But I knew I would have then dominated the discussion and ultimately led the group someplace different than where the Holy Spirit eventually led us all by the next morning.

It's really amazing, when you think about it, to get to watch the Holy Spirit move through a group of people literally right in front of you! Thank you Lord for making me a useful tool in expanding Your Kingdom!

Launch JOG Worksheet

A Launch JOG is your first JOG as a trained facilitator. It's a gathering of friends you feel safe facilitating with for the first time. Hosting a Launch JOG is a critical step in training to be a facilitator of Generous Giving experiences and a great way to share the message of biblical generosity with those closest to you.

What motivates me to share the message of biblical generosity?

Will my Launch JOG be an in-person or online JOG?

Who will I invite? (Think: family, board, church, small group, etc.)

What are some potential dates for my Launch JOG?

NOTE

Identify one individual or couple from your list who you think would be most excited to experience a JOG. Invite them first. Once this key couple or person is committed, it will be significantly easier to build the rest of your group.

Are there any obstacles I might need to overcome in order to convene or facilitate?

NOTE

Consider co-hosting or co-facilitating your Launch JOG. If interested, discuss with your trainer.

TWO-DAY

Journey of *Generosity*

BEST **In-Person Two-Day *(or more)* Getaway**

Participants stay overnight at a venue away from home.
7.5 hours of content + discussion, excluding breaks.
Spread over 22 hours, 2 p.m. to noon.*

GREAT **In-Person Two-Day Local**

Participants return to their homes to sleep and come back the next morning.

Suggested Agenda:

SESSION 1: 1 hr 30 min.

- JOG Introduction
- Story (Video)
- Participant Introductions
- Teaching (Video) & Discussion

BREAK

SESSION 2: 1 hr 30 min.

- Story of Your Choice (Video) & Discussion
- Reading: Inductive Bible Study & Discussion
- Story of Your Choice (Video) & Discussion

BREAK/MEAL

SESSION 3: 1 hr 15 min.

- *Celebration of Discipline* Reading & Discussion
- Story of Your Choice (Video) & Discussion
- Assign 30 Questions for Reflection

BREAK/OVERNIGHT

SESSION 4: 1 hr 30 min.

- Story of Your Choice (Video) & Discussion
- Discuss 30 Questions for Reflection
- Barnhart Story (Video) & Discussion

BREAK

SESSION 5: 1 hr 30 min.

- Story (Video) & Discussion
- Time of Silence & Reflection
- Digital Survey
- Story (Video)
- Close JOG

**Alternate late-start JOGs modify the in-person one-day agenda: dinner and two sessions the first day; breakfast and two sessions the second day.*

ONE-DAY

Journey of *Generosity*

GOOD **In-Person One-Day**

The group can gather in any setting that allows for meaningful discussion.
6 hours of content + discussion, excluding breaks. 1.25 hours for meal.

Suggested Agenda:

SESSION 1: 1 hr 30 min.

- JOG Introduction
- Story (Video)
- Participant Introductions
- Teaching (Video) & Discussion

BREAK: 15 min.

SESSION 2: 1 hr 30 min.

- Story of Your Choice (Video) & Discussion
- Reading: Inductive Bible Study & Discussion
- Story of Your Choice (Video) & Discussion

BREAK: Skip Session 3

- Lunch (1 hr 15 min with 20 min for 30 Questions)

SESSION 4: 1 hr 30 min.

- Discuss 30 Questions for Reflection
- *Celebration of Discipline* Reading & Discussion
- Barnhart Story (Video) & Discussion

BREAK: 15 min.

SESSION 5: 1 hr 30 min.

- Story (Video) & Discussion
- Time of Silence & Reflection
- Digital Survey
- Story (Video)
- Close JOG

ALSO GOOD **Online One-Day**

The group will convene over Zoom.
5.5 hours of content + discussion, excluding breaks.

Online JOG facilitators and participants use different booklets that are tailored to the virtual experience. Booklets include the same content in four abbreviated sessions.

SESSION 1: 1 hr 30 min.

BREAK: 10 min.

SESSION 2: 1 hr 20 min.

MEAL: 40 min

SESSION 3: 1 hr 20 min.

BREAK: 10 min.

SESSION 4: 1 hr 20 min.

But seek first
His Kingdom and
His righteousness and
all of these things will
be given to you as well.

MATTHEW 6:33

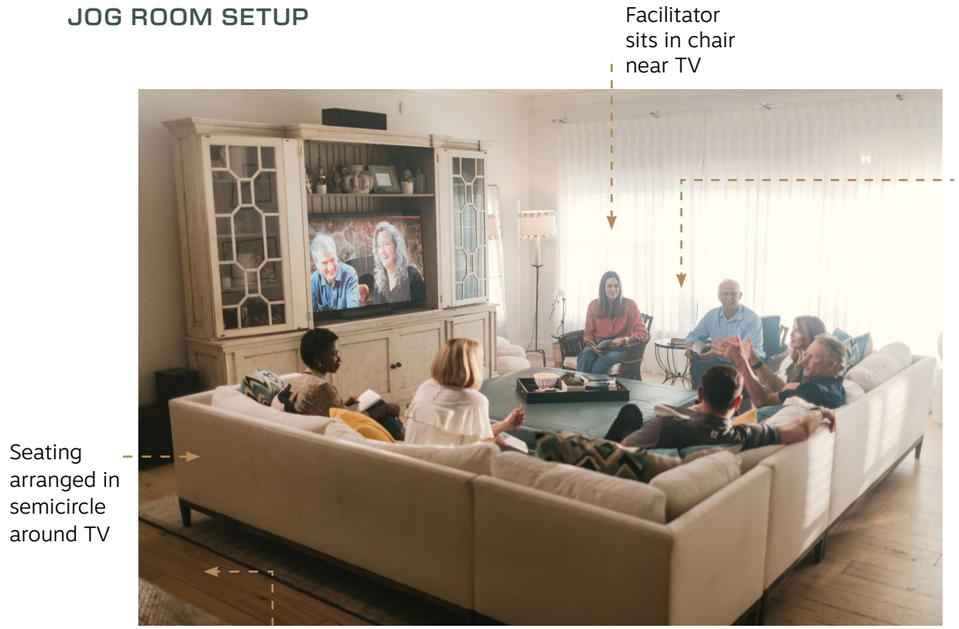
Host Resources

We know that planning a Journey of Generosity is an investment. Over the years, we have gathered many best practices for planning a JOG and compiled them on a step-by-step page on our website. We hope you will find this page helpful in planning your JOG.

Please keep in mind that we need to know about your event at least three weeks prior so that we can send you all the materials you'll need!

To start planning your JOG, visit **generousgiving.org/host-resources**.

JOG ROOM SETUP



POINTS OF CONTACT

- For training support and questions: **equipping@generousgiving.org**
- If you would like prayer: **prayer@generousgiving.org**
- For any other questions: **concierge@generousgiving.org**

Invitation *Language*

After two decades of inviting people to generosity events, we have developed language that can help you explain this unique experience. Below are a few suggested lines to use when inviting friends and colleagues to a Journey of Generosity. However, there is no better language than your own heartfelt words. If you were impacted by a JOG, then we suggest that you share your own personal "WHY" as you invite people in your life.

I am an individual inviting friends:

Because I have experienced you as a generous person, I would like to invite you to a special event. A Journey of Generosity (JOG) is a retreat where I was inspired, and I hope it will be a blessing to you as well!

I am a ministry leader inviting my Board (or donors):

You are making a difference in the mission of our organization, and I appreciate you! I would like to invite you, along with other Board members, to experience a retreat called a Journey of Generosity. This is not a fundraising event. It is a one-of-a-kind experience designed to inspire our entire group.

I am a pastor inviting my elders or church members:

You are making a difference in the life of our church, and I appreciate you. I would like to invite you, along with a few key leaders in our congregation, to experience a retreat called a Journey of Generosity. This is not a fundraising event. It is a one-of-a-kind experience designed to inspire our entire group.

I am an advisor inviting my clients:

Since I have observed you as a generous person, I am inviting you to a special event. A Journey of Generosity (JOG) is a retreat to focus on the joy of giving. I would like to invite you to be a part of this special time with a few chosen clients. This experience is designed to bless you! It has no personal agenda or request for funds. I hope you can spend time with this message and this group of friends.

I am a business leader inviting other business-minded peers:

I want to invite you to an inspiring experience called a Journey of Generosity (JOG). It's a retreat where leaders like you explore how generosity can transform our families, our companies, and our communities. No pressure—just honest, impactful conversation.

I am anyone inviting young professionals:

I would like to invite you to a one-of-a-kind event called a Journey of Generosity (JOG). It's a retreat with your peers to connect, have conversation, and clarify the purpose of your giving. Don't worry! It's not a fundraiser. It's simply a time to slow down and reflect on the possibilities of where God may be calling you.

NOTE

Remember, a Journey of Generosity is about what we want FOR others, not FROM others.

Technology *FAQs*

HOW DO I PLAY THE JOURNEY OF GENEROSITY VIDEOS?

There are several ways to play the videos, but the most reliable method is to download them in advance to your laptop or tablet. We recommend bringing:

- An HDMI cable
- The appropriate adapter for your device (e.g., USB-C to HDMI or Lightning to HDMI)

Using a direct connection to the TV helps avoid problems with Wi-Fi or unreliable streaming during the event.

For detailed setup instructions, visit: generousgiving.org/how-to-stream.

WHAT IF THERE IS VIDEO BUT NO AUDIO—OR THE VOLUME IS TOO LOW?

If the video plays but the sound is missing or is too quiet, try the following steps:

1. **Check the TV volume.**
   Ensure the TV is not muted and the volume is turned up.
2. **Consider the room size and equipment.**
   A small TV or a projector with built-in speakers may not provide enough sound for a larger group. In these cases, an external Bluetooth speaker is often necessary.
3. **Connect a Bluetooth speaker (if needed).**
   - Place the speaker in pairing (or discovery) mode. Refer to the speaker's user manual, as this process varies by model.
   - On your device (laptop, tablet, or phone), open the Bluetooth settings.
   - Look for the speaker's name in the list of available devices and select it to connect.
   - Once paired, the audio should play through the Bluetooth speaker.

If you need additional guidance, refer to your device's user manual or the speaker's documentation.

For further assistance, contact the JOG Concierge: concierge@generousgiving.org.

Online JOG Facilitation & *Zoom* Guidelines

Online Journey of Generosity (JOG) facilitators and participants each use a **booklet tailored to the virtual format.** The content is the same as the in-person experience but condensed into four abbreviated sessions. Because this is a digital gathering, **all materials and instructions** will be delivered via email to both the facilitator and participants.

USING ZOOM

Before the Online JOG, please test your setup at https://zoom.us/test to ensure your **microphone, camera, and speakers** are working properly.

Here are a few key Zoom functions to be familiar with:

- **Mute and Unmute:** Use the microphone and video icons in the lower-left corner to turn your audio or video on/off.
  - To adjust settings, click the **up arrow** next to each icon.
- **Chat:** Click the chat icon at the bottom center of your Zoom window.
  - To message **everyone**, ensure "Everyone" is selected at the bottom of the chat window.
  - To message someone **privately**, click "New Chat" and type the participant's name.
- **Rename Yourself:**
  - Open the "Participants" window, hover over your name, click **More**, then choose **Rename**.
- **Change View:** Switch between **Speaker View** and **Gallery View** using the button in the top-right corner of the Zoom window.
- **Invite Others:** To send the Zoom link during a meeting, click **Participants** > **Invite** > **Copy Link**.

BEST PRACTICES FOR ONLINE FACILITATION

To create a high-quality, distraction-free experience for participants:

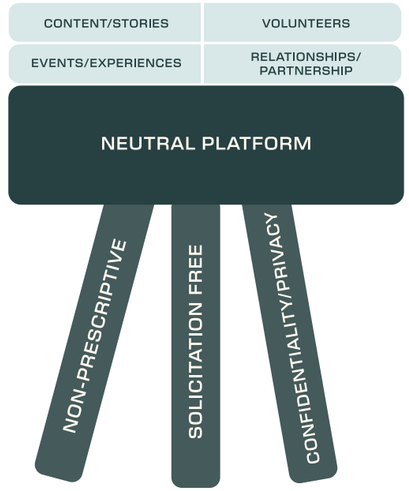
- Ensure your webcam is **framed to show your head and shoulders**.
- Choose lighting that is **even and natural**—avoid harsh backlighting or dim rooms.
- **Silence device notifications** before the call to prevent interruptions.
- **Maintain a high energy level.** Engaging participants virtually requires extra focus and enthusiasm.
- Ensure your **internet connection is strong and reliable.** If possible, use a **wired Ethernet connection.**
- For the best sound quality, use **headphones with a built-in microphone** rather than your computer's built-in mic and speakers.
- **Avoid using a smartphone or tablet to facilitate.** A computer offers a more stable and functional experience.

Our *Neutral* Platform

At Generous Giving (GG), all that we do is built upon our neutral platform. This three-legged stool represents the foundational elements upon which GG operates and serves our audience. **Our purpose in upholding our neutrality is based on our ultimate desire for people to listen to and obey the Holy Spirit.**

The “legs” are defined as:

- **Non-Prescriptive** – We will not tell participants where, how, or how much to give at our events.
- **Solicitation Free** – We will not ask participants for money at our events or allow others to do so. This includes charitable and business opportunities.
- **Confidentiality/Privacy** – We will not share personal information with organizations or persons without your permission.



These pillars uphold our neutral platform, which is the foundation upon which every GG experience is designed and carried out. Compromising on even one of these support structures creates a crack in our foundation of trust with our audience.

This neutral platform attracts new participants and gives volunteers the freedom to share this message with their friends with no expectation. Atop the neutral platform are our primary means and modes of operating and sharing the message of biblical generosity:

- **Relationships/Partnership** – How we engage people’s hearts and build sacred trust. When participants are in a pressure-free and safe environment, they often feel permission to share their struggles and their stories.
- **Volunteers** – We train and equip volunteers to create safe environments without distractions, pitches, or prescriptive advice.
- **Events/Experiences** – We use stories, Scripture, and conversation to give people permission to talk about the often-avoided topic of generosity.
- **Content/Stories** – We tell provocative stories to inspire and challenge people’s current paradigms, not to tell them what to do or set them up for an ask.

Declaration of Neutrality

JOURNEY OF GENEROSITY (JOG) FACILITATOR AGREEMENT

The following statement is one of our foundational principles:

We believe that neutral environments that invite givers to process their role as a steward – focusing only on what we want for them, not what we want from them – are the most powerful environments for transformation. These environments enhance and accelerate life change.

In order to maintain a commitment to Generous Giving’s neutral platform and maximize life change in participants’ lives, we are asking every volunteer facilitator to sign this agreement. The spirit of this agreement is for the facilitator to approach facilitating a JOG as a place of ministry, free from any self-interested motives.

I, _____ , agree to the following statements during my role as a Journey of Generosity Facilitator:

- I will, to the best of my ability, seek to be a blessing to those gathered for this experience.
- I will attempt to be a channel of the power of the Holy Spirit to change lives.
- I will not solicit business.
- I will not promote my business.
- I will not solicit donations for any cause that I personally represent or might benefit from.
- I will not promote any ministry or cause that I am personally interested in.

Scan to sign the agreement.

Share the journey. Witness the joy.