

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Investing in What Lasts

1. What's something in your life right now that feels urgent but, in light of eternity, probably isn't as important as it feels?
2. Paul says the Macedonians "gave themselves first to the Lord" before giving any money. Why does surrender have to come before generosity, rather than the other way around?
3. How does Jesus' example of being the first and most generous giver challenge the way you currently think about giving?
4. Where do you notice the "see, desire, take" pattern from Genesis 3 showing up in your own daily habits?
5. Consider this statement: "God created us to love people and use things, but materialists love things and use people." Has wanting something material ever negatively impacted a person or relationship in your life? Or, have you ever felt used by someone in their pursuit of wealth?
6. Generosity and justice are inseparable. We can't be transformed by the gospel and indifferent to the vulnerable at the same time. What's one specific need, in your church or beyond it, that you feel God nudging you toward?

GROW IN GENEROSITY EXERCISE

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This week, individually or as a group, ask God to open your eyes to one person in front of you and find a way to serve them generously. For example, cook a meal for a neighbor, offer to babysit for tired parents needing a break, or serve together at a local homeless shelter or food pantry. The goal is to simply notice someone and meet their need generously.

Then reflect: What did it stir in you to participate in the mission of generosity? How does that small taste of generosity help you picture the far bigger, lasting reward of a life spent investing in what God calls eternal?

