

GENEROUS GRACE

SOFT HEARTS AND OPEN HANDS

Sermon Questions

1. The _____ of Deuteronomy are given in the context of God's grace.
2. The purpose of the festival tithe was so that God's people would learn to _____.
3. What years were the tithes stored up to support the poor in each town? _____
4. Proverbs 22:7 says that the borrower is the _____ of the lender.
5. In what ways do the laws of Deuteronomy 14:22–15:11 point to Christ?
 - i. They remind us of what _____ gave for us: himself.
 - ii. They remind us of our duty to gather and _____ for what God has done.
 - iii. They remind us of Christ's compassion for the _____.
6. List the 5 principles that are profitable for us today:
 - i. _____ generously.
 - ii. _____ faithfully.
 - iii. Give to support _____ ministry.
 - iv. Give to support _____ ministry.
 - v. Expect _____.

Discussion Questions

1. Looking at the principles of the tithe and festival in Deuteronomy 14, how would you describe your current posture toward your finances and possessions (e.g., tight grip, open hand, or somewhere in between)? What is one specific, practical step you can take this month to give more generously—not out of guilt or greed, but as a joyful response to God’s grace in Christ?
2. The sermon emphasized the importance of gathering before the Lord for worship and rejoicing. What obstacles or excuses most commonly hinder you or your family from consistently gathering with the church? How can you “adjust your schedule” or prepare differently (as the text addresses long journeys) to prioritize joyful, in-person worship and fellowship in the coming weeks?
3. Deuteronomy calls God’s people to support Levites (gospel ministers) and care for the vulnerable within their towns and covenant community. How is our church doing in these areas, and how might God be calling you personally to contribute—whether through financial giving, volunteering, or acts of mercy? Think especially about needs among fellow believers (family, church family) versus broader society.
4. The passage warns against hard hearts and grudging giving while promising blessing for open-handed generosity. In what areas of your life do you sense a tendency toward stinginess, self-reliance, or fear (especially around debt or provision)? How does reflecting on Christ’s poverty on our behalf (2 Cor. 8:9) and God’s past faithfulness reshape your expectations of blessing as you seek to live with soft hearts and open hands?
5. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon?

Discussion Questions for Children

1. God told his people to give back a part of what he gave them and to use some of it to help the Levites and people who were poor or in need. What are some ways you can be generous with your time, toys, or snacks this week? How does remembering that Jesus gave his life for us make you want to share with others?
2. In the Bible, God’s people were supposed to gather together to worship, eat, and celebrate what God had done for them. Why is it important for us to come to church and worship God with our church family? What is one thing you can do to help yourself or your family get ready and enjoy being at church?