



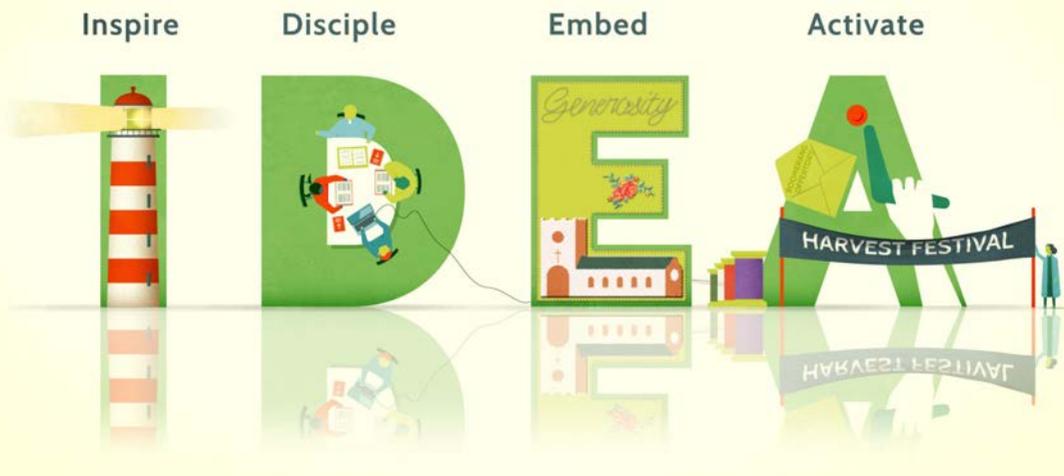
EXPLORING GENEROSITY AS DISCIPLESHIP

Resources to enable you to
encourage a culture of
Generosity in your church

“Everything comes from you, and we have given you only
what comes from your hand.”

1 Chronicles 29:14

February 2026



IDEA - ENCOURAGING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY IN YOUR CHURCH

When thinking about generosity and giving there are two acronyms that we use alongside the national church. These are MINT and IDEA. MINT focuses on enabling giving, and IDEA is focused on encouraging a culture of generosity. We believe it is vital for a culture of generosity to grow in our churches because firstly, it shows a deep understanding that we have a generous God who we want to become like. And secondly, through generosity we can build a sustainable ministry. Generosity isn't just through financial giving; however, it plays an important role in our discipleship to Jesus and is a key way for us to live generously.

To start to encourage a culture of generosity in your church, these are the four areas to focus on:

- **Inspire** people through generous leadership and celebrating generosity within the life of the church.
- **Disciple** members, through resources, teaching and learning, so people can grow in an understanding of God's generosity towards them, and how they can live generous lives.
- **Embed** generosity in the life of the church, in its plans, services and ministry and weave it into everything the church does.
- **Activate** generosity, by providing opportunities for people to grow in generosity and apply what they have discovered.



THE GENEROSITY FIKA

FIKA (fee-ka) Swedish: noun or verb

A moment of quality time to savour with others accompanied by hot beverage and cakes

Generosity FIKA is an opportunity to enjoy conversation, coffee and cake, whilst considering what generosity means for you.

The FIKA explores God's generosity through the bible and through case studies from around the world. It is a relaxed time using inspiring films, articles and activities, allowing time for reflection and discussion. The generosity FIKA can help you to cultivate the abundant, generous life that God desires for us.

The Generosity FIKA is designed as a half day course, but can be shortened to use in a service such as a café church, or adapted as a series of small group sessions. Your Generous Giving Advisor can come and facilitate the FIKA with you or provide resources.

- **What?** A focussed time of exploring generosity together.
- **Who for?** The whole church, the PCC or a home group.
- **How long?** Up to four hours, or a series of shorter sessions.
- **When?** In a home group, a café church or a special event.
- **Why?** To start the conversation on generosity as discipleship.



BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

Try a bible study from the list below to begin to encourage opening a dialogue around generosity within your church:

- 'Generosity, Gift & Grace' has material for five group sessions. (Produced by the Diocese of Blackburn.)
- 'Growing Generous Church' is a short five step process for a small group to explore generosity within their church. (Produced by the Diocese of Leicester.)
- 'Living Generously' is an eight-session film and study guide by Jonathan de Bernhardt Wood, the Director of Giving, made for small group and individual learning.

Scan the QR code for these three courses:



- **What?** A range of bible study materials for thinking about generosity.
- **Who for?** Home/Small groups within church communities.
- **How long?** Ranges from 5 – 8 week courses.
- **When?** Anytime in a home group or as a Lent course.
- **Why?** To encourage discipleship by discussing generosity together.

Generous God, Generous People is a 5-week course of daily reflections covering Generous God, Generous people, Generous giving, Generosity towards others and Principles for generous people to live by.

(Produced by the Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich.)





RUNNING A GIVING REVIEW OR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME

It can be helpful to focus on generosity for a period of time, and to encourage church members to consider their response to God. A giving review or a stewardship programme in the context of preaching and teaching on generosity is a good way to do this and can perhaps follow on after a generosity FIKA or bible study course.

As a first step try a simple “Generous Church Check Up” to help think about where your church is at in terms of its generosity and giving practice:

- **What?** A deeper look at generosity and giving in the church.
- **Who for?** All church members, led by the PCC & clergy.
- **How long?** One day or focussed over several weeks.
- **When?** Anytime, but works well at New Year or Harvest.
- **Why?** To discover where the church is in terms of giving & generosity & encourage a response.



“Giving in Grace” is a helpful resource for running a giving programme. Your Giving Advisor can help you to work out which parts are best for you to use, or can introduce some other resources to you.



RESOURCES FOR PREACHING AND TEACHING GENEROSITY

To cultivate a culture of generosity, it is so important to preach about generosity and giving in church services. But this can be daunting. So, we have some helpful resources to inspire you to preach on generosity and giving:

‘Preaching Generosity’ is an excellent tool which offers short but brilliant sermon ideas every week drawn from one of that week’s Common Worship lectionary readings.

‘Stewardship For Sundays’ is a wonderful list of stewardship ideas for sermons and the offertory based on the Common Worship lectionary, contributed by Brian Morris.

‘Stewardship for Harvest’, forms a five sermon series on Luke chapters 14 to 17; including “The Cost of being a Disciple”, “The Lost Sheep & The Lost Coin” and “The Rich Man and Lazarus” which you can use to form your harvest time teaching.

‘Giving in Grace’, provides many teaching resources with five different sermon tracks exploring: five

- **What?** Preaching materials to encourage generosity.
- **Who for?** Clergy, Readers and Local Worship Leaders.
- **How long?** Short reflections or longer sermons.
- **When?** For use in church services.
- **Why?** To ensure generosity is embedded in our preaching and teaching.

passages from Matthew, four passages each from Mark and Luke, plus the Exodus narrative and Paul’s detailed teaching on giving in 2 Corinthians. The Exodus and Luke resources also include all age worship materials.

All of these preaching resources can be found here:



BIBLICAL INSPIRATION AND REFLECTION

“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

1 Chronicles 29:14

“The generous man looks for ways to be generous”

Isaiah 32:8

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’

Acts 20:35

“He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”

Romans 8:32

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every

- **What?** Bible verses about generosity for personal reflection.
- **Who for?** Everyone
- **When?** For personal bible study or for group reflections (lectio divina).
- **Why?** To help explore what the bible says about generosity.

occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God”

2 Cor 9: 7-9,11

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

1 Tim 6: 17

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4: 8-10



CONTACT US

Please get in touch with your Generous Giving Advisors if you have any questions or would like to explore cultivating a generous culture in your church:

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Acts 20:35

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