



Life of Christ

A study of the life and teachings of Jesus

For Where Your Treasure Is

—by Tanner Cangelosi

My daddy taught me this principle of a generous heart from a young age. He was in finance, and money was always a topic of conversation—how we could bless others with the blessings we have received. He would always buy others' meals if we saw people we knew in restaurants. He would always make time for those who were hurting. I even saw him give a car to someone. His generosity was something he taught me by example, and I hope to pass along to my herd of children (who are currently storing up mounds of stuffed animals for themselves. Call me if you need some.).

I hope you have someone in your life who has been an example of generosity. This topic of giving can be touchy because we love our stuff. Especially during uncertain times, we want to make sure we have our toilet paper, our food supply, our 401K secured. When God asks us to check our hearts, He reminds us that this is our moment as a church to give and let others know how much we care.

I love how Pastor Matt said, “When we are meeting the physical needs of others, it opens the door to meet their spiritual needs, as well.” I’ve also heard Pastor Rick say, “People don’t care what you know until you show how much you care.” So, take this moment to check your heart and answer the question, “Where is my heart?”

During quarantine, my heart began to focus on *my* comfort, *my* family’s food supply, *my* toilet paper supply (six kids use quite a lot), *my* time, *my* Amazon Prime gifts to myself....and so on. Then I remembered this principle and decided to do a heart check. What amazed me was—when

I lifted my eyes off myself to Jesus—I realized how many people were hurting and what even a small gift would do for them. So, I loaded up my sweet 15 passenger van and took my kids to deliver meals, gifts they had made, and packages of precious toilet paper to people we loved. And the *joy* that came from those doorstep deliveries overflowed my heart. I was the recipient of the blessing. Truly.

What is God calling you to hold with an open hand, ready to give to someone who may need it? Could it be paying a bill for a friend, making meals for those stuck at home, or choosing to tithe for the first time, even when the future is uncertain? Please know that God will bless your generous heart with more joy than I can express. I learned that from my Daddy.

Question Do you own your stuff or does your stuff own you? When has this been a challenge for you? How have you noticed God helping you deal with this important issue?

Family Chat Do you have any stuff that you need to be willing to share or give away to someone else, maybe a sibling or friend? Remember, God wants us to share our stuff and not just have more stuff.

Take Action Invite your spouse, a close friend, or a family member to give you their honest take about where you stand with your stuff.