Journey CHURCH
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Session 2: Give Happily

Main Scripture: Acts 20:35
Supporting Scripture: Philippians 4:11–13

Big Idea: True happiness isn't found in accumulating more but in living generously and finding contentment in Christ.

INTRODUCTION — THE JOY OF GENEROSITY

- A simple act of generosity can make a lasting difference in someone's life.
- The story of a family purchasing bicycles for a refugee father and son demonstrates how one act of giving can inspire even greater generosity.
- Generosity doesn't just bless the person receiving the gift. It also brings joy to the giver.
- Jesus teaches us that a life of generosity leads to a deeper kind of happiness.

1. THERE IS GREATER JOY IN GIVING THAN RECEIVING

Scripture: Acts 20:35

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

- Jesus teaches that giving brings a greater blessing than simply receiving.
- The word *blessed* communicates happiness, joy, and fulfillment.
- We often believe happiness comes from getting more, but Jesus teaches us to experience joy through giving.
- Even small acts of generosity can make a meaningful difference in someone's life.

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Key Truth: Some of life's greatest joys come from what we give, not what we receive.

2. MORE COMFORT DOESN'T MEAN MORE HAPPINESS

Scripture: Acts 20:35

- Our culture encourages us to pursue more comfort, convenience, and possessions.
- While comfort isn't necessarily wrong, it cannot provide lasting satisfaction.
- We can have more than ever before and still feel like something is missing.
- Jesus invites us to find greater joy through generosity rather than continually pursuing more for ourselves.

Key Truth: Happiness isn't found in raising our standard of living but in raising our standard of giving.

3. CONTENTMENT IS THE FOUNDATION OF GENEROSITY

Scripture: Philippians 4:11–13

- Paul learned to be content whether he had plenty or was facing need.
- Contentment doesn't come from our circumstances or possessions but from trusting Christ.
- When we recognize that God has already given us what matters most, we become less focused on getting more.
- A content heart makes it easier to recognize opportunities to bless others.

Key Truth: When we learn to say, "I have enough because I have Jesus," we become free to give generously.

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4. GENEROSITY IS SOMETHING WE PRACTICE

Scripture: Acts 20:35; Philippians 4:11–13

- Generosity is more than a feeling. It is a choice we make.
- Sometimes giving means sacrificing a personal comfort to meet someone else's need.
- Small, intentional acts of generosity can develop into a lifestyle of giving.
- As we practice generosity, God shapes our hearts to become more like Jesus.

Key Truth: The more we practice generosity, the more naturally generosity becomes part of our lives.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE — GIVE A HAPPY GIFT

This week's challenge is to intentionally give something that brings joy to someone else.

- Consider giving up a small personal comfort or unnecessary purchase.
- Use those resources to bless someone in need.
- Ask God to show you who you can bless and how you can make a difference.
- Remember, the amount isn't as important as the heart behind the gift.

CLOSING CHALLENGE

The world tells us that happiness comes from having more. Jesus teaches us that greater joy comes through giving.

This week, look for an opportunity to trade a little personal comfort for the joy of blessing someone else.

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Closing Prayer: Ask God to help us find contentment in Christ, recognize the needs around us, and experience the joy that comes from living generously.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Why do you think giving brings a different kind of joy than receiving?

2. Can you share a time when you experienced unexpected joy from giving to someone else or meeting a need?

3. Why do you think our culture places so much emphasis on comfort, convenience, and having more? How can those pursuits affect our relationship with God?

4. What is the difference between enjoying the blessings God has given us and allowing those blessings to become the source of our happiness?

5. In Philippians 4:11–13, Paul talks about learning to be content in every circumstance. What does biblical contentment look like in everyday life?

6. How does learning to be content with what God has provided make it easier to become more generous toward others?

7. This week's challenge is to give a happy gift. What is one comfort or unnecessary expense you could sacrifice this week to bless someone else?