



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Celebrating Generosity	SPEAKER	Dr John Andrews
THEME	Celebration Series	DATE	23 & 24 August 2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Dr John Andrews reminds us that as Christ-followers we are birthed out of God's grace and generosity. The core of the biblical story highlights God's ultimate act of generosity – giving His only Son to become human, who died for us so that we could be saved. As Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 8:9, "Christ became poor so that through His poverty, we might be made rich".

To appreciate and celebrate generosity, we must first understand what God has done for us. We have freely received, and as recipients of His immense generosity, our natural response should be to reflect that generosity towards others. In Acts 20:35 we are reminded that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The key here is that the blessing lies in the act of giving itself, without expecting anything in return – giving with no strings attached.

The story of the boy with five barley loaves and two small fish in John 6:1-15, was used to illustrate how generosity not only impacts others but also enlarges and enriches the giver's own life.

IMPACT OF GENEROSITY

1) His Act of Generosity Enlarged Him

The boy, though poor, gave all he had. By stepping forward with his small offering, he entered into something greater than himself. Proverbs 11:24 reminds us that generosity can enlarge our lives in ways we do not expect. Giving beyond ourselves leads to personal growth.

2) His Act of Generosity Enabled the Lord

When the boy offered his loaves and fish, Jesus took them, gave thanks and fed the multitude. By giving all he had, the boy gave God the "permission" to multiply his offering and use it for His Kingdom. This illustrates that no gift is too small for God to use – when we offer all we have, He multiplies it for His glory.

3) His Act of Generosity Enriched Others

In verse 12, we see that everyone ate and was satisfied from the boy's humble offering. Dr Andrews reminds us that sometimes, God's actions are for His Glory alone, but there are also times when He calls us to give – not for recognition or reward, but simply the joy of giving to enrich the lives of others.

CONCLUSION

Generosity is not about what we have; it is about who we are in Christ. It is not about the size of the gift, but the attitude with which it is given. Celebrating generosity is about embracing the generosity God has shown us and becoming a conduit for that generosity in the world.

When we give from the heart, sharing what God has freely given us, it grows us, enables the Lord's work and enriches others – even if they never know who blessed them.

QUESTIONS

1. The boy offered all he had at hand, even though it may seem small. What are some “loaves and fish” in our lives that we sometimes overlook or underestimate?

2. In what ways have you experienced personal growth or enlargement through an act of giving and how has that impacted your relationship with God?

3. How might your generosity enable the Lord’s work in your family, community or BBTC? What is one practical way your cell—or you personally—could reflect God’s generosity this week?