

## Character Trait November 26-December 2 is Generosity

**Proverbs 11:3, “The integrity of the upright guides them”**

**CHARACTER:** the qualities built into an individual's life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

**Generosity:** Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need.

**Weekly Verse:** Proverbs 19:17 “Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.”

**Bible Story:** Mark 12:41-44 tells the story of the widow who gave everything.

**Quote:** "You can always give without loving, but you can never love without giving."

### Leadership:

It can be difficult for me to be generous as a leader. I am typically task-driven and run on a tight schedule. Being generous means that I need to give others my time and attention, and truly focus on them and their needs. This means I need to set aside my agenda and be OK with not accomplishing the next thing on my list. I need to remember that being generous with others will reap far greater rewards for my team than checking off a box on a list.

### Application:

**If you need to, start small.** Sometimes we don't give because we feel like we can't give enough to make a difference. Instead, realize that God can use anything we give. Find a cause or a person who can be helped by a small gift. The important thing is to get started.

**Spend time with a generous person.** All of us have people in our lives who model generosity by giving of their time, talent, or treasure. Spend some time with them. Ask them questions. Find out why they give, and ask for advice on how you can get started.

**Give first.** The next time you receive a gift of money or a paycheck, give someone a portion of it as the first thing you spend money on. Even if it is a small gift, having our first act be a gift to someone else helps our mindset become one of generosity.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Who is one person in your life who models generosity?
2. What are some of the effects of being generous? How does it benefit us personally to be generous to others?