



2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

GENEROUS
june

Student Resource



**THE DIOCESE
OF SHEFFIELD**
Renewed | Released | Rejuvenated

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Intro

“...He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God.”

– 2 Corinthians 9 v 11 (MSG)

This resource will help us to look at where and why we are spending our time, money and energy. We are going to start with five questions to help us begin processing and then move on to an activity.

It's very easy in our culture to get very busy without considering where we are investing our time and resources and without allowing ourselves the time and space to prioritise schedules. If we want to live a generous life we need to see what we have been given and what we can share with others.

This exercise is meant to allow us to take a look at our life and see how we can live generously. Don't overthink this, just write down a general picture of where you are and what you are doing. This is not supposed to make you feel bad. It's a process, we are always learning, growing and improving.



Begin with Thanksgiving

Hands, Home & Heart

**"I will extol the Lord at all times;
his praise will always be on my lips."**

Psalm 34: 1

The focus for the whole of June is to look at how grace, gratitude and generosity are linked, so please feel free to access any of the other resources that we have created by visiting generousjune.org.

We will begin by giving thanks for what God has already given us.

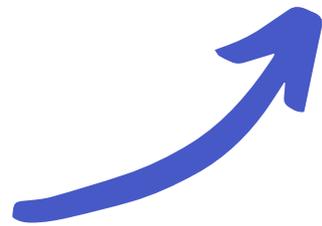
GRACE



GRATITUDE



GENEROSITY



Begin with Thanksgiving

Hands, Home & Heart



As we prepared the resources for Generous June we have been reminded by God through Paul's letters that Grace and gratitude are linked to how we see and live out generosity. We would encourage you to pause and reflect on all that God has given you and give thanks to him for those blessings. You might find it a helpful filter to consider these three

areas

HANDS HOME HEART

Give thanks for three things in each area. When you think about these, use them as a lens to filter your gratitude through.

HANDS: consider what you put your hands to. Your work? Whose hand do you hold? Are you artistic or musical? These are all things to be grateful for.

HOME: consider what about it you love. The garden? The paint colour on the walls? What it represents to you? Can you thank God for his provision?

HEART: Consider what passions you have for a group, activity or project. Is there something God has put on your heart?

Use the next page to write down what you are thankful for

Begin with Thanksgiving

"I will extol the Lord at all times;
his praise will always be on my lips."

Psalm 34: 1



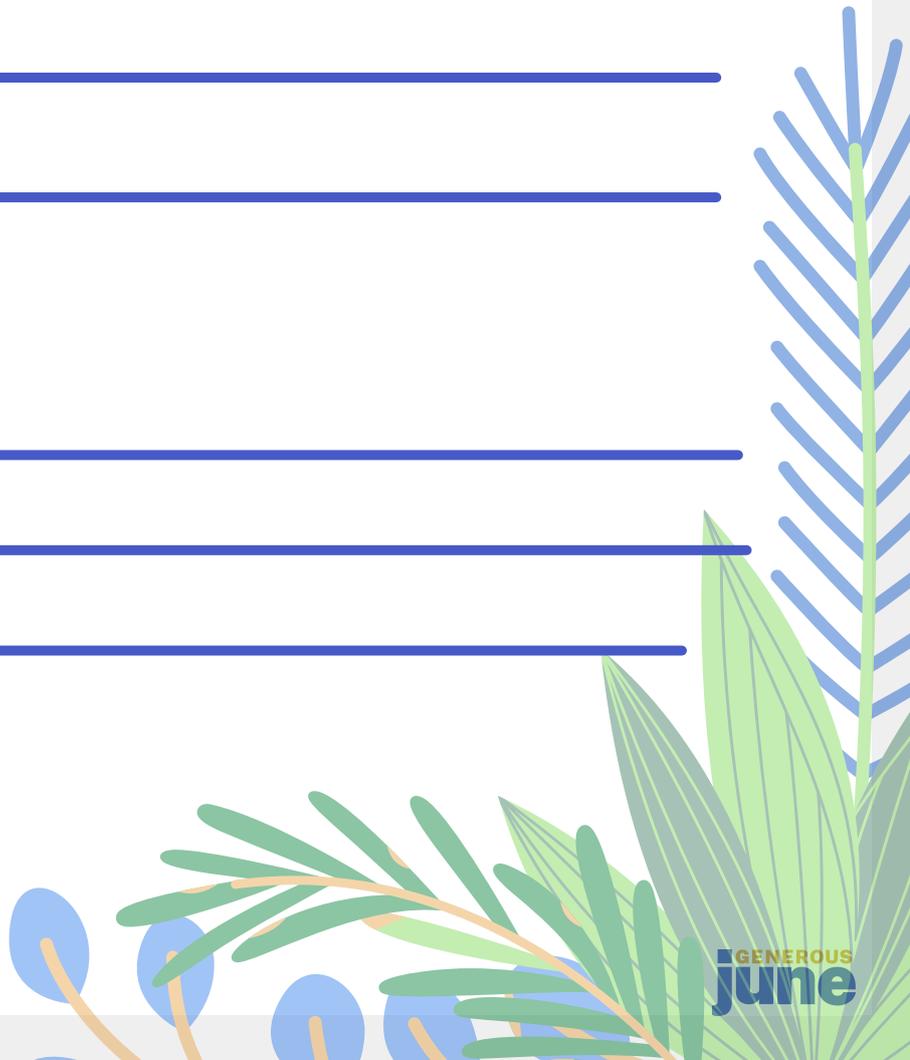
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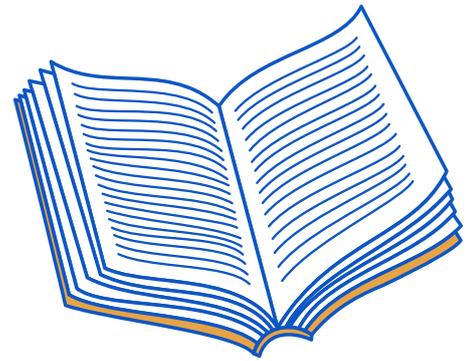
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Three horizontal blue lines for writing.



Reading



Before you look at the five questions on the next page. spend some time reading the passages below.

As you read them think about what stands out to you. Is there any specific passage that resonates with you? What gifts do you think you have been given?

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Ephesians 4: 11-13 (NSV)

The parable of the five talents

Matthew 25:14-30 (NSV)

5

Questions



What does generosity mean to me?

What do I feel passionate about?

Do I know where I spend my resources? Where does my time go? Who do I spend time with? How do I use my body and physical resources? Do I feel burnt out and tired?

What do I think I am lacking?

What areas would I think to grow through investment from others?

Notes



A series of 25 horizontal blue lines, evenly spaced, providing a template for writing notes.

Activity

COUNTING THE COST



1

When you are filling out the grid below think about:

What stands out to you?

Are there activities that are costing you time, money, energy?

Are there activities that help you grow spiritually, relationally, financially?

Are you surprised by anything?

2

Next let's run these things through the filter of:

I have to – Examples: Uni studies, sleep, work.

I choose to – Examples: Play on a sports teams, part of social groups, art club, Student Union etc

I want to – Examples: Learn to cook, start to run, spend more time with friends/family

If it helps think about them as commitments and freedoms.

This about what stands out to you about your current schedule?

The reason that we are looking in detail at our daily lives like this is so that we can see what have we gathered that we can give away.

Generosity and living a generous life means that we need to see all that we have been given.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Morning

Afternoon

Evening

Notes



A series of 25 horizontal blue lines, evenly spaced, providing a template for writing notes.

Activity

REFLECTION



What have you noticed? What do you have a lot of?
What do you feel you are lacking?

Is there a resource you have a lot of that you can
share?

Where would you like to grow/ ask for investment
from a friend?

Use the space below to write down your thoughts

Action

LET'S DO
SOMETHING



Share what you have discovered with someone close to you. Ask them what they think is a skill, resource or blessing that you could share with someone else.

Share with them how you think you can live generously.

Eg. cook a housemate a meal once a week, share a skill or an area of knowledge and explain to them how you are going to schedule that into your weekly/monthly rhythms.

Share with them the areas you have identified where you want to grow and what you are going to do to make room for that in your schedule.

Prayer

“...He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God.”

— 2 Corinthians 9 v 11 — The Message Version

Think about what God has revealed to you during this exercise. Thank him for all that he has given you and ask Him to show you ways you can share with others.