

OPEN HANDED

February 5, 2023

THE OWNERSHIP MYTH | 1 Chronicles 29:1-13

Wade Paton

S U M M A R Y

This weekend we started into our new series on stewardship called 'Open Handed'. We looked at the attachments we have to our resources and, through a story from the life of David, how to grow in generosity.

R E A D

1 Chronicles 29:1-13; Philippians 2:1-8

Pause. Take time to prayerfully consider what has been read.

D I S C U S S

- 1) What do you feel about the resources in your life? Do you tend to be fearful about not having enough (scarcity), grasping to hold what you have, or generally content? Why do you feel that way that you do? What experiences have influenced your relationship with money and resources?
- 2) In 1 Chronicles 29, what prompted the giving frenzy?
- 3) What was the significance of the temple in the life of the Israelites that made it such a central focus of their generosity?

In the prayer of David, we looked at three insights: Everything belongs to God, comes from God, is dispersed by God.

- 4) In what ways do you agree or object to these statements?
- 5) What are the implications in your life if what David said is true?

In Philippians 2, the apostle Paul exhorted the church to mimic Jesus in our open-handedness toward one another.

- 6) What does it mean that Jesus did not consider equality with God as something to be used (grasped/held/exploited) for his own advantage?
- 7) How does the term 'kenosis' relate to following Jesus in his way of generosity?

R E S P O N D

What do you sense Jesus calling you to be generous with in the days ahead? Write down what living in an open-handed way would like over this next month.

*Share how the Spirit is inviting you to respond today and the week to come – to **be with** Jesus, to **become like** Jesus, or to **do what** Jesus does.*

P R A Y

Take time to wait and pray together. What is Jesus praying for? Come into agreement with His prayers.

Pray that we would responsive to Jesus as he shows us where we have close-handedness in our lives. Ask Jesus to heal us of false or negative attachments to the resources he has given us.

