The Widow's Offering: Trust and Sacrifice in Giving



Explore Mark 12:41—44 to learn about sacrificial giving, trust in God's provision, and the heart behind generosity in this 7-day study.





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Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study on *The Widow's Offering*, taken from Mark 12:41—44. This passage presents one of the most powerful teachings on sacrifice and trust in scripture. Jesus observes people as they give offerings, highlighting a poor widow who gives two small coins. Despite her poverty, she gives all she has, demonstrating deep faith and trust in God's provision.

This study will guide you through the heart of sacrificial giving—where generosity isn't measured by the size of the gift but by the spirit in which it is given. Jesus challenges us by revealing that true generosity involves surrendering our resources and trusting God, especially when those resources seem meager. We will explore what it means to give wholeheartedly, how God values faith over abundance, and how trusting God with 'little' opens the door for His provision and blessings.

Over the next seven days, you'll engage with Scripture passages that unfold the theme of sacrificial giving within the broader context of the Gospels. You'll be encouraged to reflect deeply, journal your thoughts, and pray intentionally. May this journey inspire your heart to trust God more fully, understanding that it's not how much we give but the faith and love behind our giving that honors Him.

















Day 1: Introduction to Sacrificial Giving

Your Verse

Mark 12:41—44 - "Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put..."

Supporting Scriptures

- 2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give..."
- Luke 21:3-4 "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all the others..."







Day 1: Introduction to Sacrificial Giving

Devotional: Giving From the Heart, Not the Abundance

Jesus observed the crowd giving offerings, noticing that a poor widow gave two small coins—the only thing she had to live on. This story challenges us to rethink what true generosity means. Sacrificial giving isn't about the total amount but about giving from the heart despite limitations or fears.

The widow's act is a powerful example of trusting God fully. She believed God would provide for her needs even after giving all that she had. It invites us to examine if our giving reflects such deep trust or is dependent on our abundance.

As you begin this study, consider how God is calling you to grow in giving—from a place of faith, not obligation or convenience.







Day 1: 🔲 Introduction to Sacrificial Giving

Reflect and Apply

1.]	How does the widow's example challenge your current view of giving?
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	Do you find it easier to give when you have more, or to trust God with little?
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3.	What fears or doubts do you have about sacrificial giving?
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Day 1: Introduction to Sacrificial Giving

Journaling Prompts

	Write about a time you gave sacrificially or found it difficult to trust God with your resources.
2.	List ways God has provided for you despite challenges.
3.	Reflect on what 'giving from the heart' means for your life.







Day 1: Introduction to Sacrificial Giving

Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for showing us the value of sacrificial giving through the widow's example. Help me to give not from what is left over but from a trusting heart, knowing You are my provider. Teach me to see giving as an act of faith, not obligation. Strengthen my trust that You will supply all my needs as I honor You with what I have. May my heart be generous and my spirit willing. In Jesus' name, *amen*.











Day 2: **?** Trusting God with Little









Day 2:
 Trusting God with Little

Your Verse

Mark 12:44 - "She, out of her poverty, put in everything— all she had to live on."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 37:25 "I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken..."
- Matthew 6:26 "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away..."







Day 2:
Or Trusting God with Little

Devotional: Faith Over Fear: Trusting God's Provision

What does it mean to trust God when you have very little? The widow's example in Mark 12 reveals a deep faith—she gave everything she had, trusting God to provide.

Psalm 37:25 reminds us that God does not forsake those who are righteous, while Jesus teaches us to observe the birds and trust in our Heavenly Father's care (Matthew 6:26). Giving all we have feels risky but it is also an act of profound dependence on God.

When resources seem scarce, faith calls us to lean not on our own understanding but on God's abundant provision. Are you willing to release control and trust His timing and care?







Day 2: 🖓 Trusting God with Little

Reflect and Apply

	In what areas of your life do you struggle to trust God with what you have?
2.	How does God's care for creation encourage you to trust Him?
	What steps can you take to grow in trusting God with your finances or possessions?







Day 2: \bigcirc Trusting God with Little

Journaling Prompts

	Describe what 'trusting God with little' looks like in your current circumstances.
2.	Write about any fears you have about financial insecurity or lack.
3.	Pray through your hesitations and ask God to increase your faith.







Day 2:
O Trusting God with Little

Prayer for Today

Father, You are my provider and sustainer even in times of lack. Help me to trust You deeply when my resources are limited. Teach me to give generously from what I have without fear, believing You will meet all my needs. Increase my faith to rely fully on Your provision and timing. I surrender my worries to You today. In Jesus' name, *amen*.











Day 3: The Heart Behind Giving









Day 3: V The Heart Behind Giving

Your Verse

2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 3:9 "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;"
- Acts 20:35 "It is more blessed to give than to receive."







Day 3: V The Heart Behind Giving

Devotional: Giving From a Cheerful and Willing Heart

Giving is not simply a transaction but a reflection of the heart. God looks at why we give and with what attitude. The widow gave sacrificially and willingly, not out of obligation but from faith and love.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that giving should be cheerful and voluntary (2 Corinthians 9:7), honoring God with our resources (Proverbs 3:9). Jesus also taught that giving enriches the giver spiritually — it is more blessed to give than receive.

Today, ask yourself: Does your giving flow from a joyful and trusting heart? How can your generosity become a deeper expression of your love for God?







Day 3: 💙 The Heart Behind Giving

Reflect and Apply

1.	What motivates your giving—love, obligation, or something else?
2.	How can you cultivate a more cheerful attitude in your generosity?
3.	Do you believe God is honored by the spirit of your gift? Why or why not?







Day 3: 💙 The Heart Behind Giving

Journaling Prompts

1.	Recall a time you gave joyfully—what made it different?
2.	Write a prayer asking God to shape your heart in giving.
3.	List ways you can give beyond money that honor God.







Day 3: 💙 The Heart Behind Giving

Prayer for Today

Lord, cultivate in me a heart that gives joyfully and willingly. Help me to give from love and trust rather than obligation or guilt. May my generosity be a genuine reflection of my faith and honor You in every way. Teach me to delight in giving, knowing it blesses me and others. In Jesus' name, *amen*.











Day 4: F Growing in Generosity









Day 4: 7 Growing in Generosity

Your Verse

Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 11:25 "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
- Malachi 3:10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse...see if I will not throw open the floodgates..."







Day 4: 7 Growing in Generosity

Devotional: Faithful Giving Produces Abundant Blessings

Generosity is a seed that grows when cultivated with faith. When we give, God promises to pour blessings back into our lives (Luke 6:38). This divine principle motivates us not just to give but to trust God's abundant grace.

Proverbs 11:25 affirms that generosity brings refreshment and prosperity, while Malachi 3:10 challenges us to bring our best to God and watch Him open the floodgates of Heaven.

As you reflect today, consider how generosity can become a growing part of your walk with God. Trust that even small offerings can bear great fruit in His Kingdom.







Day 4: 🍞 Growing in Generosity

Reflect and Apply

1.	How has generosity in your life led to spiritual or material growth?
2.	Do you believe God rewards faithfulness in giving? Why?
3.	What small step toward generosity can you take today?







Day 4: 🍞 Growing in Generosity

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time God blessed you in unexpected ways after giving.
2.	List areas where God might be inviting you to give more generously.
3.	Plan a practical way to grow your generosity this week.







Day 4: 7 Growing in Generosity

Prayer for Today

God, thank You for Your promise to bless those who give faithfully. Help me to sow seeds of generosity with confidence and faith. Teach me to trust Your timing and provision, knowing You multiply small offerings into great harvests. Make me a generous giver who reflects Your heart. In Jesus' name, amen.



















Your Verse

Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Supporting Scriptures

- Hebrews 13:5 "Keep your lives free from the love of money..."
- 1 Timothy 6:10 "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil..."







Devotional: Breaking Free From Barriers to Generosity

Many face obstacles in generous giving—fear, greed, mistrust, or material attachment. Jesus warns against storing treasures on earth and challenges us to evaluate where our hearts truly are.

Hebrews and Timothy caution against loving money, which can block our ability to live sacrificially. Reflecting on these barriers can help us identify what keeps us from imitating the widow's faith.

Ask God to reveal any fears or affections that hinder your generosity and to free you to give with a willing heart.







Reflect and Apply

1.	What fears or attachments affect your willingness to give?
2.	How does loving money impact your spiritual life?
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3.	In what ways can you realign your treasure toward God's Kingdom?
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Journaling Prompts

Identify one barrier to your giving and write about it honestly.
Ask God to help you release control and build trust.
Write a commitment statement to grow beyond this barrier.







Prayer for Today

Lord, reveal to me any barriers preventing me from generous giving. Help me to overcome fear, greed, or love of possessions that hold me back. Cleanse my heart and fix my treasure on You. Teach me to give sacrificially, trusting Your perfect provision and timing. Strengthen my faith to follow the widow's example. In Jesus' name, *amen*.









Day 6: X The Rewards of Sacrificial Giving









Day 6: K The Rewards of Sacrificial Giving

Your Verse

Luke 6:38 – "Give, and it will be given to you...for with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 19:29 "And everyone who has left houses...for my sake will receive a hundred times as much..."
- Hebrews 11:6 "Without faith it is impossible to please God..."







Day 6: 🎇 The Rewards of Sacrificial Giving

Devotional: Sacrifice Yields Spiritual and Eternal Blessings

Sacrificial giving brings joy, spiritual growth, and divine reward. The widow's offering was small but her faith made it great in God's eyes. Jesus' teachings remind us that giving with the right heart multiplies God's blessings.

Matthew 19:29 promises abundant returns for those who sacrifice for God's Kingdom, while Hebrews 11:6 underscores faith as essential to pleasing God.

Reflect on how sacrificial giving deepens your faith and leads to both temporal and eternal rewards.







Day 6: 🗱 The Rewards of Sacrificial Giving

Reflect and Apply

1.	Have you experienced unexpected blessings from giving?
2.	How does sacrificial giving grow your faith?
3.	What eternal rewards encourage you to give generously?







Day 6: 🎇 The Rewards of Sacrificial Giving

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time your faith was strengthened through giving.
2.	Reflect on heavenly rewards and how they motivate your generosity.
3.	Pray for a joyful heart in your sacrifices for God's Kingdom.







Day 6: X The Rewards of Sacrificial Giving

Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for the promises attached to sacrificial giving. Help me to give with faith, knowing You honor and bless such generosity. Strengthen my trust in Your eternal rewards and increase my joy as I give. May my life reflect Your grace through my offerings. In Jesus' name, *amen*.



















Your Verse

Acts 20:35 - "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Supporting Scriptures

- Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap..."
- Romans 12:13 "Share with the Lord's people who are in need..."







Devotional: Commit to Generosity as a Lifestyle

Generosity is a lifelong journey that reflects Christ's love through our actions. The widow's example teaches us that living generous lives requires continual trust and faith.

Paul reminds us it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35), and Galatians encourages perseverance in doing good. Romans also calls us to share with those in need.

As this study concludes, commit to embodying generosity every day, trusting God and making giving a natural, joyful part of your life.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How can generosity become a consistent part of your daily life?
2.	What practical steps will you take to share with those in need?
3.	How does giving reflect the character of Christ in you?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Create a personal action plan to practice generosity regularly.
	Write about how generosity impacts your relationship with God and others.
3.	List people you can serve or bless through giving.







Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to live generously each day. Let giving become a joyful lifestyle that reflects Your love. Strengthen me to persevere in doing good, sharing with those in need, and trusting Your provision. May my life be a blessing to others as You bless me. In Jesus' name, *amen*.









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