Pastor Jay’s Midweek Moment 3/26/2025

 Happy Wednesday! You’re halfway there. Keep at it!

This Sunday, we are taking a look at the practice of generosity. Yes, one of the spiritual practices is generosity. We will also begin another “8 Days of Generosity.” It’s another opportunity to share with those around us the generosity that comes with being a follower of Jesus.

 “8 Days of Generosity” is an intentional way for us to practice what Jesus taught us. His way of life toward everyone he met was one of love and generosity. He sought to serve others and led by His example – including giving us His life. I want to be like Him. Maybe you do too. So how do we get there?

 First, we acknowledge that we must practice. Being generous doesn’t just happen for us overnight, so we start where we are and move forward. Ask yourself this question…

 ***“On a scale of 1-10, where 1 is a feeling of anxiety and greed and a desire for more, and where a 10 is feeling great and satisfied with what you have – where would you put yourself right now?”***

 Once you get to the vulnerable part and confess before God where you are at (*do not hold back – this isn’t the time – God knows your heart, and part of growing is owning where you are*), you ask Him to move you to the next step or level. Ask Him to give you opportunities to grow in generosity, and then when He gives them to you, respond. Responding is the hard part. That’s where the questions really happen. “Do I have enough to give?” “What will they do with my gift?” “What if I run out?” “How much should I hold back?” **And these are legitimate and honest questions**! Don’t beat yourself up for asking them. But rather, ask God to remove those questions and then just give in response.

 It is in the trusting God, that generosity truly flows. It is in the trusting that God has provided enough and will continue to provide us enough that our generosity becomes apparent. We stop asking “can I afford to let this go?” and ask “How would someone benefit from receiving this gift.” Trust is shifted. From our hands to Gods hands. That is what Jesus teaches us above all else. Trust in God is better than trust in self. Ask and you will receive. Knock and it will be opened. These aren’t promises of prosperity but promises that God will provide. And He will. And He does. And when it happens, it’s hard to hold back from telling others. I look forward to seeing you on Sunday, and in our next “Eat and Teach” Wednesday night.

 PS… If you know someone, 1st grade or older that would like to learn more about our sacrament of Holy Communion, invite them to stay after worship on April 6 for about an hour or so. I will host a “First Holy Communion” class. They will learn, taste, and know more about why we celebrate this amazing table time. The kids/adults will then receive their first communion on Palm Sunday (the following Sunday). RSVP ASAP and let me know. 614 406 3995, or call the office and let Angie Mullins know.

 God Loves You and so do I,

Pastor Jay