



Generosity

A Gospel View of Our Finances

Out of a conviction to follow Jesus in the passion with which He talked about money in the Scriptures, our elders led our body through the topic of money and generosity this fall.

And why did Jesus spend so much time talking about money?

Because He knew that money could have such a mastering affect over our lives. Jesus said that no one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. The truth is that God desires our exclusive worship.

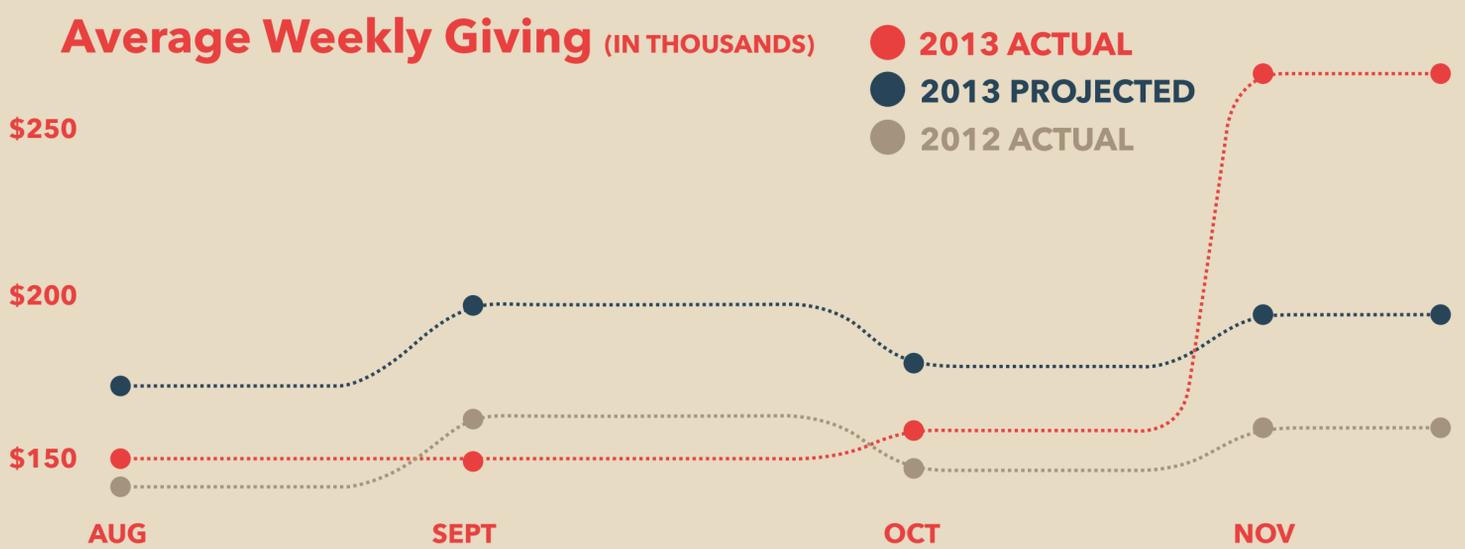
Just as God desires our exclusive and absolute worship, so does money.

So we spent three weeks talking about how when God commands us to give it's not just because He wants our money, it's because He wants our hearts. And He has set the greatest example. When God gave us Jesus, He did not withhold. So now as a people of God who has been saved by this great gospel, we can express our own joy through being a generous people.

Our generosity should always reflect God's generosity in giving us His Son.

Our hope has been for a fruit of this series to be the generosity of our people flowing first and foremost to God's church, because Jesus gave His everything, He laid down His life for His bride, the Church. Jesus has tasked her to take the gospel to the very ends of our city and to the very ends of the nations.

Over the last three years we have experienced tremendous growth (in attendance, Missional Communities, partnership and giving)! But since the start of this new fiscal year, despite our continued growth in many areas, we did not see the same growth in our giving. But praise God that this is not the conclusion of this story, for there is great news!



Here, we can see tangibly what God has begun to do in our church through this series regarding the kind of generosity that reflects the giving of Jesus.

Most times it's difficult to quantify if there has been an embrace of God's Word through obedience. But here we can see the fruits of God setting our hearts free from the love of money and our fear of being without. We can see the results of His growing our love for Him. This represents a tangible story of people responding to God's call for their hearts. Let us give thanks for God's faithfulness through his people, and let us ask Him to do abundantly more!