



## handfull

living in God's generosity

### **"They Go Hand in Hand"**

*For the week of November 26 - December 2, 2017*

#### **Warm Up:**

What is the most generous gift you've received from someone? How were you affected by it?

#### **Open in Prayer**

#### **Main Thought:**

Gratitude and generosity go hand in hand. The more grateful we are for what God has done, the more generous we will be with our lives. We can express gratitude to God by using our time, talent, and treasure to bless and serve others. Because God is generous, we are also called to be generous. Generosity not only points others to God, it is an appropriate response to everything God has done for us.

#### **Main Passages:**

*"Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.<sup>2</sup> Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him.<sup>3</sup> Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.<sup>4</sup> But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected,<sup>5</sup> 'Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.'<sup>6</sup> He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.<sup>7</sup> 'Leave her alone,' Jesus replied. 'It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial.'<sup>8</sup> You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.'" (John 12:1-8)*

(Turn over for continuation...)

<sup>437-38</sup>... Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity." (Luke 6:38 MSG)

### **Scripture Exploration:**

- What stands out to you from these passages of scripture? Where do you see the connection between gratitude and generosity?

### **Personal Reflection:**

- What are some specific ways that God has blessed your life?
- Describe what generosity looks like in your life (time, talent, treasure). Where do you find it easy to be generous? Where is it difficult?
- What are some specific ways God is inviting you to be more generous with in your life?

### **Active Application:**

- What will you do this week to express gratitude to God by being generous to others?

### **Close in Prayer:**

- Thank God for His generosity in your life.
- Pray for one another to live a life of generosity.
- Pray for one person you're believing to know Jesus this holiday season.

