

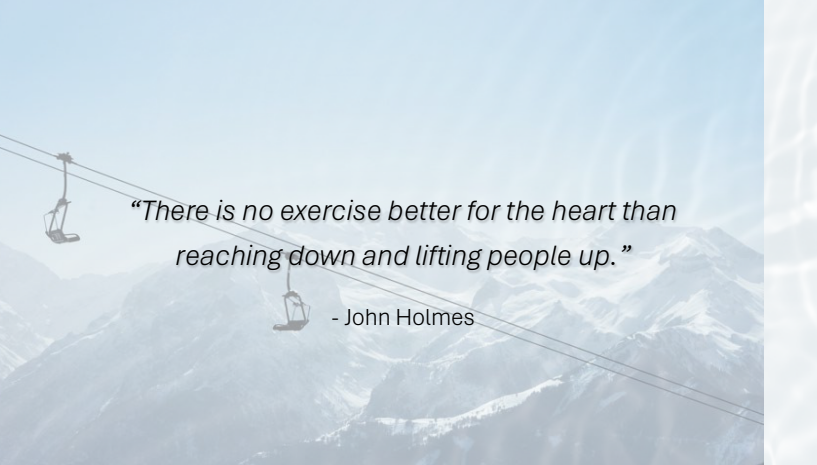
Experience 1

# Generosity

A gift from God's heart (1)

Generosity  
Discipleship  
Experience





*“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.”*

- John Holmes

**Imagine** receiving an unexpected, special gift from someone.

- What will that special gift be and why?
- How will it make you feel?
- How will you react to the giver?
- Imagine that the giver doesn't have much – even less than you. Will you feel and react the same?
- Imagine that you are the giver? What will your experience be to give an unexpected gift?

The aim of this experience is to **cultivate the habit of giving through acts of kindness.**

# A Gift from God

Generosity is a gift from God's generous and loving heart to us who are living in a world in need. In receiving this gift, it sets free our minds (head), feelings (heart), and actions (hands) to embark on a lifestyle of generosity.

Generosity brings with it a call to our senses, our feelings, our thoughts, and our actions. Whether we are givers or receivers, generosity engages and challenges our whole being and brings with it the potential to liberate us from ourselves and our circumstances.

In this experience, the focus is on Generosity as a *Gift from God*.



# God's Generous Heart



**Watch:** [A Handful of Rice](#)

Share what you've experienced and learned from this story about how people reacted to God's gift of generosity. Think about the following:

- Generosity as showing gratitude
- Serving a greater purpose
- Increased blessings
- Generational habits
- Igniting more creative giving



**Reflection:**

*How are you going to make the experience of this story part of your life as a receiver and as a giver?*



**Read:** [Genesis 1:28](#), [John 3:16-17](#),  
[Matthew 4:17-27](#)

*What insights do these Scriptures bring to your understanding of God's generous heart?*

*My answer to the Lord is...*

# Generosity Lifestyle and Habits



**My lifestyle commitment ... (What?):**

- **Share stories** (snapshots) of God's generous heart and gifts and acts of kindness experienced in your own life and other people's lives.
- **Write down** one or two things regarding God's gift of generosity that you are going to explore further. How and when are you going to do it?



**Habit to cultivate: Habit 1 - Give through acts of kindness.**

- **Decide** on one thing you are going to change to receive God's generous gifts as a daily blessing in your own life and a blessing to others.
- **Share:** *The person with whom I'm going to share what I have experienced and learned is ...*
- **Pray:** [Proverbs 11:24-25](#) (NIV) as an answer to God

*"One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."*