



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Radical Generosity – Part 4 (Discipline)

Pastor Stephen Hayes

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Main Idea – After we have received knowledge from God through revelation, then we have the desire to be obedient to what that revelation requires. Continued, uninterrupted obedience requires discipline to follow-through on the commitment.

Radical Christians are in the process of continually becoming better people

- The more “radical” a Christian becomes, the better person s/he is (more gentle, peaceful, loving, wise, etc.)
- The three steps of becoming radically generous:
 - Revelation – we receive good information from God
 - Obedience – we obey what is required by the information we receive
 - Discipline – we make an ongoing commitment to do what is right for the rest of our lives.

When God is first

- In life, we will put something first. It is impossible not to put something in first place.
- God is what we should recognize as being first.
- **Matthew 6:33 – But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**
- In Pastor Mike Hayes’ book *When God is First*, he says that God is first of everything. This does not mean God is all alone by Himself. Rather, He is the first in a sequence of things that follow. God is first in line.
- God has said, because He is first, He wants us to return to Him the first portion of everything we receive. **Malachi 3: 10-11 says, – “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” says the Lord of hosts.**
- When we seek God first, He blesses us with all we need for ourselves, and then more.
- God can use us to bless and love others; just as we have been blessed and loved.

Radical discipline

- When we are children, we instinctively accept and follow things.
- As we grow toward adulthood, we develop the ability to reason by organized thinking and logic.
- Christians understand it is important to not lose the ability to live by faith, even as we grow in our knowledge and reasoning abilities.

Tithing is a witness we know God exists and that He is active in the world's affairs

- Tithing is a mandate from God. It is something He told us to do.
- By tithing we show God (and ourselves) that He is the first in line of all our obligations in life.
- It is best if you pay your tithe (the first 10% of your gross increase) to your church.
- Through your giving, the church is able to do all the good it does in the world.
- Tithing is a powerful way to recognize that God exists, He is involved in life's events, and that we have placed Him first in line in our lives.

Reflective Questions for Radical Generosity – Part 4: Discipline

- 1. Why is discipline an important part of becoming a better person?**
- 2. What purpose do you believe God has called you to in life? Do you know this because He placed the vision in you?**
- 3. List some of the blessings that will happen as you become successful in that purpose.**
- 4. What financial increase will come with those blessings? (Is there a particular number that comes to your mind?)**
- 5. When that number is reached, what will be your first fruits tithe on that amount?**
- 6. When that purpose is realized, in what other ways will you be able to be part of God's work?**