



joyful  
GENEROSITY

PRAYER GUIDE

The purpose of this guide is to suggest ways for you to personalize joyful Generosity in your life. We have offered six ideas to guide your prayer time. You may want to schedule a specific time each day for a week, or you may want to schedule one or two extended times to hear from God. We recommend that you find a quiet place without interruptions, so that you can voice your prayer to God and listen as He speaks to your heart.

- The grace of Jesus Christ is the primary motivation for our generosity. Reflect upon this truth and give thanks to Him for all the things He has done for you. Allow His Spirit to remind you of specific times when you trusted Him through faith, when He answered your prayers by giving you beyond what you asked or even thought was possible. (2 Cor 8:7-9)
- We understand generosity more fully by the example of kind and generous people. Ask the Lord to bring to mind examples of specific people or groups that have been really generous to your family, your close friends, or to you. Spend time thanking the Lord for these faithful people, one by one. If no one comes to mind, ask the Lord to give you His eyes to see acts of generosity as you live your life today. (2 Cor 8:1-7)
- Most of us know the impulse of generosity at Christmas or other special occasions. Generosity often begins with a strong feeling of love and concern. To be fruitful, our good intentions must lead us to a plan of action. Ask the Lord to bring to your mind any possible unfulfilled promises of your generosity. Ask Him to give you wisdom and courage to make a plan and to follow through with an open hand. (2 Cor 8:10-15)
- Generosity comes from a willing heart. Then we personalize God's call on our heart, looking for the opportunities put before us. Ask the Lord to remind you of specific experiences when your heart was stirred to give and the joy that you experienced by following through God's call at that time. (2 Cor 9:1-9)
- Just as bountiful reaping comes from bountiful sowing, so joy springs from generous giving. As we know, fruit comes from the seed. But the fruit tastes better than the seed, and the fruit feeds more than the seed. The bountiful fruit fills the sower's heart with joy. As you reflect on this truth, ask God to encourage your heart by helping you envision what your joyous generosity could mean to God and to others. (2 Cor 9:6-9)
- The great thing about generosity is that we can give from what has been supplied to us. We are privileged to be stewards of all that God has provided to us. God supplies everything we need to be generous. Reflect on what He has given specifically to you (your time, your talents, and your treasure), Ask Him what He wants you to do as a steward of (1) your time, (2) your abilities, and (3) your financial resources. Then be still and listen. (2 Cor 9:10-15)