

Today we kick off our 2020 Advent series, "Our Giving God" where we're looking at the the lavish generosity of God across all our lives and especially in the sending of Jesus, the ultimate gift.

# OUR GIVING GOD

**God's Generosity**  
Various Texts  
Sunday, December 6, 2020

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## 1. God \_\_\_\_\_ it all.

- What God \_\_\_\_\_ He owns. (Ps. 24:1-2, Ps. 89.11-12)
- God owns \_\_\_\_\_. (Ps. 100:3)
- God creates not to get, but to \_\_\_\_\_. (Ps. 36:5-9)

## 2. God \_\_\_\_\_ it all.

- \_\_\_\_\_ is gift. (Jam. 1:17, 1 Cor. 4:7)
- We are God's \_\_\_\_\_ invited into the enjoyment and sharing of His blessings.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him are all things. (Rm.11:36)

## TAKE A NEXT STEP

- Find 20 minutes this week to ponder what happens to us when we forget God's generosity vs. when we remember God's generosity? What kind of people do we become when we forget or remember?
- What is one more way you can live "open handed" with your money, time, energy, or stuff this week in response to God's generosity?

## Today's Scripture Reading

Our scripture reading today is a compilation of several texts, which are printed here for your convenience.

*The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. (Psalm 24:1-2)*

*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1:17)*

*Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. (1 Chronicles 29:11-14)*

*What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? (1 Corinthians 4:7)*

*For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen. (Romans 11:36)*

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*Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at [gracecentralcoast.org](http://gracecentralcoast.org).*

*This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.*

*During the COVID-19 crisis our groups are meeting live and virtually using Zoom and other online platforms.*

## CONNECT *(ask these questions to check-in with your group)*

Who's the most generous person you know? Why are they generous?  
Where do you see it in their lives?

## DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's word together)*

1. Read the Scripture reading at the top of the outline again together. How did you "come under" God's Word in the text and message this week? How did God speak to you or challenge you?
2. Which one of those passages in the Scripture reading most grabs you? Why?
3. God's ownership of our lives is an especially hard truth for Americans to swallow. Why is that?

4. What kind of people do we become when we forget that God owns all and God gives all?
5. What kind of people might we become if we can remember that God owns all and gives all? What keeps you from being more generous?
6. Growth Group as a FAMILY: Why do we tend to think of generosity in mostly financial terms? What are other ways we can be generous with one another? How is your group doing in being generous with one another?
7. Growth Group as SERVANT/MISSIONARY: Do you think the world looks at Christians as generous people? What is one way your group can practice generosity together toward the broader community this month?

## PRAY

- Pray for those suffering through this Covid-19 pandemic and pray for it to end soon.
- Pray for one another's open-handed, open-life generosity toward one another and toward the broader community.
- Be generous in your listening and encouragement as you share other needs and pray for one another.