you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ 40“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

* How do you – or can you – show generosity towards others?
* What is happening at church that you may think of getting involved in?

In the Gospel of Luke we hear: “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” (6: 38)

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***Take Away Activity: will take 1 minute!!***

In the week(s) ahead ask God to show you how he is calling you to be generous on his behalf.

* Who does he want you to pray for?
* Who could you act generously towards, in friendship, gift, or ways of thinking about them?

**Generosity, Gift & Grace**

**Session 4**

**Letting our faith shape our lives**

***Activity: Generosity***

Think about what you have heard in the DVD and consider how generous you are towards the following groups:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Family | Friends | Strangers | People I don’t like |
| Image result for image of rice bowl and chopsticks | Image result for image of rice bowl and chopsticks | Image result for image of rice bowl and chopsticks | Image result for image of rice bowl and chopsticks |
| Put a number from 1 to 5 in each box (below) to indicate generosity: 5 is very generous,  1 is not generous at all. |
|  |  |  |  |

***The Reading is from Matthew 18: 21 - 35***

21Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” 22Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.” 23“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. 25Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. 26“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ 27The servant’s master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go. 28“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. 29“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

30“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

32“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

This is the Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

***Activity: Thinking about the Reading***

 ***Have a chat about your thoughts!***

* Describe the character of the two servants.
* What do you think motivated the king to cancel the debt?
* How did the other servants feel when the servant owing 100 silver coins (verse 28) was thrown in to prison?
* What caused this reaction?
* If the king in the story is representative of God, what does this reading show us about the nature and character of God?

***Activity: Making a Difference***

In the DVD we heard Jesus say: 34“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ 37“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see