THE
GENEROSITY
PROJECT

Growing in God's Grace Generation to Generation

LIVE IT OUT! A Household Supplement Connecting Church and Home

A synod, congregation and household ministry

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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Growing in God's Grace Generation to Generation

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LIVE IT OUT!

Take home conversation starters to nurture the practice of generosity in our households and daily lives.

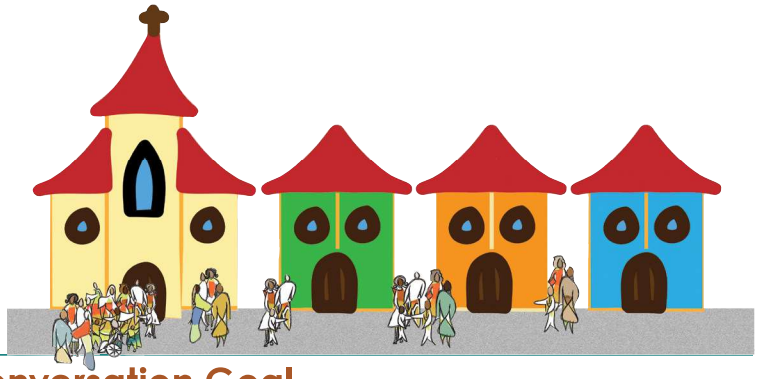
Live It Out! is a household supplement to The Generosity Project: 5G Sessions and Worship. The Live It Out! conversation starters are intended for households with one or more members, those sharing living space temporarily or permanently; for immediate family, extended family; and friends of all ages and generations. They are intended for those who may experience multiple religious traditions or no faith practices in their daily life.

Each conversation session consists of a theme, a goal, a key question, further discussion prompts and words of affirmation and blessing. Corresponding activity pages help launch conversations into understanding and action.

The goal of the Generosity Challenge is to explore the meaning of tithing and the idea of sharing 10 percent of all we earn or own. It is meant to trigger further conversation – and a generous response.

The six household conversation starters may be used in six days, six weeks, six months or as part of a congregational initiative related to The Generosity Project. Allow plenty of time for these important conversations. May these conversations and activities help shape the practice of generosity now and for many generations to come!

Note: If a household of one, please substitute "me" for "we" and "my" for "our." Think about those with whom you could have these conversations – extended family members or a small group of friends.



LIVE IT OUT!

Connecting Generations: The WHO

Conversation Goal

Identify and celebrate the people of all ages who are examples of generosity that surround this household.

Conversation #2

Ripples of Generosity

Who are the models of generosity for you? Have you been the recipients of the generosity of others? Who are the extended family members or friends who have shared their time, talent or wealth with you? Recall and name beloved friends, community members and others whose generosity have shaped your life. Listen to one another's stories. Make a photo collage of people who have impacted your life in big ways and small ways. If living, send them a note expressing your appreciation.

Key Question

Who has given generously to us?

Discussion Prompts

- When have we been recipients of the generosity of others?
- For whose generosity am I most thankful?
- What are the giving patterns over the generations in our family? Do we want to change these patterns in some way?
- Does the giving of others inspire us to be generous?
- Does one's age matter in acting generously?

God's Story

John 6:1-14 (CEV). "When Jesus saw the large crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, 'Where will we get enough food to feed all these people?' He said this to test Philip, since he already knew what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Don't you know that it would take almost a year's wages just to buy only a little bread for each of these people?' Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the disciples. He spoke up and said, 'There is a boy here who has five small loaves of barley bread, and two fish. But what good is that with all these people?' The ground was covered with grass, and Jesus told his disciples to have everyone sit down. About five thousand men were in the crowd. Jesus took the bread in his hands and gave thanks to God. Then he passed the bread to the people and he did the same with the fish, until everyone had plenty to eat. The people ate all they wanted, and Jesus told his disciples to gather up the leftovers so that nothing would be wasted. The disciples gathered them up and filled twelve large baskets with what was left over from the five barley loaves. After the people had seen Jesus work this miracle, they began saying, 'This must be the Prophet who is come into the world!'"

Affirmation + Blessing

God has blessed us through the abundant generosity of others. We will joyfully share what God has provided us.

CONNECTING GENERATIONS

Action 2

Our Family Tree of Generosity: These are the names of all those who have shared God's abundant generosity with us.

The Generosity Challenge

How many canned goods or jars of food are in our cupboards and pantry? Count them. What is 10% of that number? What would it mean to give away or purchase 10% of the number of canned and jarred items in our cupboards? How hard would this be to do? Who suffers from being hungry? To whom or where would we go to donate these items?