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Scriptures I want to look up again:

Luke 6:32-35—Bottom Line:

Do for those _____
do anything _____.

application:

We are starting a _____.

A Conspiracy of Hope

www.eastridgechurch.org

Study Questions

Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.

INTRODUCTION

One thing about being part of a larger church family like the Covenant Church, is we can make a large difference. When we come together, when we're generous, we can change our communities and the world. This year we are starting a new adventure with over 300 other Covenant churches, over 6000 of our fellow Jesus-followers in America, and hundreds of thousands of brothers and sisters in Africa.

Together we have the potential to transform the entire region of Northwestern Congo, something we couldn't do if our church were on our own. Our giving will be focused on a specific village in that region. In the process we have an opportunity to create a reputation in the minds of those who do not share our beliefs. We want them to look at us and say, *"Those are the most generous, compassionate, and competent people I know. It seems as if they genuinely want something for us rather than something from us. I don't know what makes them tick, but I'm sure glad they are in our part of the world."*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Talk about a time when someone was generous to you with their money, time, or influence. How did that person's generosity affect you?
2. Do you tend to think of Christians and the church as being generous? Why or why not?
3. **Read together: One more time 1 Timothy 6:17-19 & then Luke 6:32-36.** On Sunday Dwain said Jesus is saying in Luke 6, that we should find those who can't or won't ever pay us back and be generous to them. Do you think that's what Jesus is saying? Why or why not?
4. How could being generous to others change peoples' perceptions of Christians and the church?
5. Why do we hesitate to give to others even though we have more than we need?
6. Is there a charity or particular group of people in need that is near and dear to your heart? If so, talk about why you feel a burden to help that charity or group.
7. What can you do this week to be rich toward others? What can this group do to support you?
8. What can you do in this new adventure your church community is launching into with Covenant Kids Congo? Pray? Sponsor? Outreach Team support? How can your group support you in that effort?

MOVING FORWARD

Does our generosity make a difference? Does it do any good? God didn't pour out his love for us because it would "work." Look at us. It still hasn't completely worked. We're still a mess.

We aren't doing **Be Rich** because it will "work." We aren't doing it expecting anything in return. We're doing it because, in some small way, it reflects what God did for us. So let's **Be Rich**. Let's do more and give more than ever before.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:17-19

