



To lean in is the opposite of running away. In this sermon series we are leaning into how God wants to shape and form our lives. Almost 2000 years ago the Apostle Paul started a church in a city he never visited; he chose to lean in to loving people. After leaving that church he wrote them about living a generous life. Paul instructed them on what do with their financial means. Giving isn't reserved only for the rich – it's an act of faith. Giving is one way to say: "God I trust you with everything I have." We want to lean into all that God has for us. Today we're going to focus on leaning into generosity. We want to lean into what the Bible teaches us about what to do with our financial resources and we want to be obedient to follow God's word.

1. Neal opened the sermon by talking about the RAS (reticular activating system) that helps our brain choose what to process. Share about something that your RAS has highlighted at one time or another in your life.
2. Paul writes to the church in Corinth about being generous with their financial resources (read 2 Corinthians 9:6-7). In general, what are your thoughts about giving to God? How did you originally form this thought process?
3. Paul instructs the church in Corinth to be cheerful and decisive in their giving. Read Luke 19:1-10. Zacchaeus was decisive in his giving and gave half his possessions to the poor. What does it look like to be decisive and cheerful in your giving?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 9:8-9. God promises to give us what we need - not what culture says we must have. Share about how you have fallen into thinking that wants are needs and have been misled on financial purchases.
5. Giving reflects a deep trust in Jesus. Read Luke 21:1-4. This woman was acting in obedience to God and her experience with God (see Malachi 3:10). What sticks out to you most about this woman and her trust in the Lord?
6. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus spoke these words (Matthew 6:19-24). What makes it easier for a person to store up treasures on earth than in heaven? What do you think about Jesus' words in verse 24? Can a person serve two masters?
7. When we trust our financial situation to God, He will provide all we need (read 2 Corinthians 9:10-11). Share about how you've seen God provide for your needs because you've made a commitment to trusting Him with your finances.
8. Close your time in prayer. Talk about who you will invite to Coastline Online.