



## MESSAGE ONE

# GENEROSITY = THE ESSENCE OF GOD

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It can happen anywhere – on the golf course, in a boardroom, in relationship. We call it “being in THE ZONE.” It’s when you’re hitting on all cylinders, and it seems life is on a roll.

God wants our whole lives to be lived in the Zone. It’s the place of his favor, the place of his blessing. The enemy of our soul wants us to be zoned out, and he resists us when we begin to focus our lives toward the God zone.

So this is important stuff. Let’s just jump into it.

### THE ESSENCE OF GOD IS GENEROSITY

As Christ followers, we need to be **God-hearted**.

Generosity is at the core of who God is.

*John 3:16, For God so loved the world that he **gave** his one and only Son.*

*Romans 8:31, 32, If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own son, but **gave** him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously **give** us all things.*

The zone is at the very **heart** of God.

Abraham is an example of one who lived in the zone.

Genesis 12:2-3, *I will make you into a great nation. I will **ble**ss you. I'll make your name great. And you're going to be a **ble**ssing. I'll **ble**ss those who bless you. Whoever curses you I'll curse. And all the peoples on earth will be **ble**ssed through you.*

## **BLESSINGS...WHAT DO WE MEAN WHEN WE SAY IT?**

To be blessed means to be **recipient** of the tangible and intangible favor of God.

Followers of Christ can live in the same zone Abraham did.

Galatians 3:29, *If you belong to Christ then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the same promise.*

Abraham fully recognized that God was the **owner** of all that he had, and that he was simply the **manager**.

## **THE ZONE**

To understand what it means to live in the Zone, we need to understand three words...

1. **Blessor**
2. **Blessed**
3. **Blessing**

The way we go from *blessed* to *blessing* is to **receive** and **reflect**.

We understand that we are the managers, not the owners, of God's blessings.

God wants you to enjoy his blessings, but he wants you to reflect his nature.

*Philippians 2:5, Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus, who did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied himself and took on the role of a servant...and became obedient even to the point of dying on the cross...God exalted him to the highest place.*