



GENEROSITY

“It’s shameful, of course, to want this much. And while I don’t mean to suggest that I’m utterly consumed by these things, I didn’t used to think this way at all. I didn’t used to lie in my bed and on nights that I couldn’t sleep sometimes play this mental game in which I consider how I’d arrange our things (minus the futon) if we lived in the beautiful homes that many of our friends own.

GENEROSITY

I never imagined I'd find myself in the curious position of having so much more than my parents ever had, of having more, frankly, than I ever thought I would have—and yet simultaneously feeling like I'm falling behind, that I need to earn more, save more, invest more, acquire more. When did I begin to feel this anxiety of acquisition? How did I become such a fool?"

Joel Lovell

"The Upside of the Downside"

The New Yorker Magazine, 2/4/08

GENEROSITY

“It’s not so much that making more money has turned us into outlandish spenders; it’s more that over the years, we’ve absorbed and internalized the tastes and habits and priorities of the shifting culture around us, which is something I suspect has happened to a lot of people. (I like good cheese as much as the next guy. I’m just saying it’s odd, or at least noteworthy, that I don’t blink when I fork out \$26 for a pound of it.) And somewhere inside ourselves, we’re aware that this is what’s going on.”

Joel Lovell

“The Upside of the Downside”

The New Yorker Magazine

GENEROSITY



**This is God's Word for my life in this place and at this time.
Today I am a new creation in Christ, I am God's very own,
And I believe he has a purpose for my life.**

The whole congregation of believers was united as one—one heart, one mind! They didn't even claim ownership of their own possessions. No one said,

"That's mine; you can't have it."

They shared everything. The apostles gave powerful witness to the resurrection of the Master Jesus, and grace was on all of them.

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And so it turned out that not a person among them was in need. Those who owned fields or houses sold them and brought the price of the sale to the apostles and made an offering of it. The apostles then distributed it according to each person's need.

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Joseph, called by the apostles "Barnabas" (which means "Son of Encouragement"), a Levite born in Cyprus, sold a field that he owned, brought the money, and made an offering of it to the apostles.

Acts 4:32-37 (msg)

GENEROSITY

Compelling Generosity

GENEROSITY

Com·pel·ling

\kəm-'pe-lɪŋ\
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demands a response,
to express forcefully or irresistibly

GENEROSITY

*“You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he
became poor, so that you through his poverty
might become rich.”*

2 Corinthians 8:9

GENEROSITY

*Compelling Generosity requires a vision for
the future our generosity is creating.*

*“If I drive out demons by the Spirit of God,
then the kingdom of God has come upon you.”*

Matthew 12:28

GENEROSITY

Compelling Generosity requires simplicity

Simplicity –eliminating those things that stand in the way of the future
your generosity could create.

Wants - desires based on competition, envy, pride, or entitlement

Needs – essential to health and the fulfillment of our purpose

GENEROSITY

Compelling Generosity embodies a message

Our giving reflects the Spirit of Christ in us.

GENEROSITY



GENEROSITY

Freely you have received...



Freely give.