



Footprints of Generosity

THE EARLY CHURCH MODEL OF GENEROSITY

In the book of Acts, the Early Church is a force, a movement, a counter-cultural *way*. And their testimony is striking. Imagine a community of one heart and soul where there was "not a needy person among them"... What would it take for us today to be formed in the likeness of the Early Church? To be so open, so generous, so full of faith and commitment until we could all, every one, sense a "great grace" upon us? Surely these are some of the goals of generous discipleship, then and now.

Today, let us consider what step we can personally and collectively in our congregation make toward an Early Church Model of generosity. How can we foster a sense of unity in heart and soul? How can we encourage sharing in common through our congregation? How can we strive for the kingdom of God where there is not a needy person among us?

One step today leads to a life of faith, courage, and transformation tomorrow. Grace and peace to you on the journey!

Acts 4:32-34a

"Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them..."

Prayer

Generous and Abundant God, you were with our ancestors in the early church as they formed a community of faith dedicated to you with a generosity of spirit. Help us re-claim their ideals and forge a faith full of such courage, openness, and grace. Help us to see the needy among us—the poor in spirit, the impoverished, the oppressed, the hurting, the lonely—and assist us in finding ways to help, heal, and hope for the very sake of Christ. Amen.

***Nurturing generous disciples
to serve as the
hands and feet of Christ***

