

UNLEASHED!

DAY 10— Practice Radical Generosity

Acts 4: 32-37

Time Alone with God

Prayer

Explore the Word

Read Acts 4:32. How would you describe the believers in the book of Acts?

Insights from Ellen White:

This liberality on the part of the believers was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit. The converts to the gospel were “of one heart and of one soul.” One common interest controlled them—the success of the mission entrusted to them; and covetousness had no place in their lives. Their love for their brethren and the cause they had espoused, was greater than their love of money and possessions. Their works testified that they accounted the souls of men of higher value than earthly wealth. (*The Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 70, 71)

Prayer Focus

Ask God to give you a generous heart and a desire for true unity with fellow believers.

Family/Friend Circle

Connect Activity

Gather everyone in a circle. Take turns briefly acting out a sacrificial gift that someone gave you. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bless His Word.

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Explore the Word

Read Acts 4:32, 33. What is the connection between great generosity and great power from the Holy Spirit?

Insights from Ellen White:

Of the apostolic church, in those bright days when the glory of the risen Christ shone upon them, it is written that no man said “that aught of the things which he possessed was his own.” “Neither was there any among them that lacked.” “And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.” “And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and

having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” Acts 4:32, 34, 33; 2:46, 47.

Search heaven and earth, and there is no truth revealed more powerful than that which is made manifest in works of mercy to those who need our sympathy and aid. This is the truth as it is in Jesus. When those who profess the name of Christ shall practice the principles of the golden rule, the same power will attend the gospel as in apostolic times. (*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 137)

Prayer Focus

Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill each family member and friend with the joy of Jesus in giving sacrificially to advance His mission to the world.

Church Family

Welcome

Worship in Prayer

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Sit with your small groups. Our prayer team will invite your small group to pray through the Word of God together. After praying for a few minutes, you will hear the prayer team begin to sing one stanza of a song. When you do, please transition from prayer to song.

Tell:

1. (SMALL GROUPS) Read Psalm 78:4. Share with your group about the precious things you have seen God do in your life during the 10 Days of Prayer.
2. (EVERYONE) Sing a song of gratitude for blessings.

Repent:

1. (SMALL GROUPS) Read Psalm 78:5–7, 11. Confess in prayer that we have forgotten how much God has done for us. Ask for His forgiveness.
2. (EVERYONE) Sing a song of forgiveness or redemption.

Ask:

1. (SMALL GROUPS) Read Psalm 78:23, 24. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give us the heart of our Father God. Help us to give generously as He gives to us.
2. (EVERYONE) Sing a song of consecration or willingness.

Testify

(SMALL GROUPS)

Form groups of two or three within your small groups. Ask and answer: “What did God help you do with yesterday’s 24-Hour Challenge?”

(Yesterday's 24-Hour Challenge: Ask God to show you someone who is forgotten in your community. Ask Him what that forgotten person needs from you and from the Lord Jesus. Go minister to that person in Jesus' name before tomorrow's meeting. Read Acts 4:32-37 in preparation for tomorrow.)

Connect Activity

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Ask the people in your small group, "What would be an easy (yet meaningful) thing for you to give away?" Let everyone answer. Next ask everyone, "What would be the most difficult thing for you to give away?"

Worship in Word

(SMALL GROUPS)

Read Acts 4:32–37. What motivated the generosity of these church members in Acts? In what ways would our community and church family change if we practiced the kind of sharing described in this passage?

Insights from Ellen White:

Thus it will ever be when the Spirit of God takes possession of the life. Those whose hearts are filled with the love of Christ, will follow the example of Him who for our sake became poor, that through His poverty we might be made rich. Money, time, influence—all the gifts they have received from God's hand, they will value only as a means of advancing the work of the gospel. Thus it was in the early church; and when in the church of today it is seen that by the power of the Spirit the members have taken their affections from the things of the world, and that they are willing to make sacrifices in order that their fellow men may hear the gospel, the truths proclaimed will have a powerful influence upon the hearers. (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 71)

Prayer Focus

LEADER TO EVERYONE: In your small groups, ask God to fill you with His deep love for the lost. Pray for God to replace our selfish hearts with generous, sacrificial hearts so we can carry out the final mission to reach every soul before He returns.

Appeal

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Who here tonight is convicted by the Holy Spirit to offer all that God has given you to be used to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ? Come and join me as we surrender our time, talents, possessions, and influence to Christ.

24-Hour Challenge

LEADER TO EVERYONE: Ask God what specific gift you could give Him of your time, talent, or money that would greatly further the gospel right now. When He tells you what that is, give it joyfully, sacrificially, and swiftly for the glory of Jesus alone!