



That's what generosity does

Last December, Sarah Clark, a waitress and bartender in Phoenix, Arizona, was on the receiving end of a generous gift.

A couple whose meal had cost them \$61.00 left a tip of \$900.00 for the heavily pregnant waitress, writing on the bill, “This is God’s money – he gave it to us so we could give it to you. God bless.” Who wouldn’t want to be on the receiving end of that kind of generosity?

This gift wasn’t earned, probably wasn’t deserved (I’m pretty sure her service wasn’t THAT good!) and was certainly not expected. Yet it resulted in a stunned, grateful and very happy waitress.

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The couple who gave this gift clearly knew something of the generosity of God in their own lives and allowed it to spill over to benefit the lives of others. Gordon MacDonald puts it succinctly when he says, “Generosity is the act of projecting out of myself everything that God has loaned to me for the benefit of others”.

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This couple were living out the words of Paul in 2 Corinthians 9:11–12 where he writes, “You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”

Paul encourages us to “excel in this grace of giving” (2 Corinthians 8:7), which results in thankfulness; like the waitress, I’m continually stunned, grateful and seriously blessed at the generous, grace-driven giving of the church family at King’s. You have grasped Paul’s words, seek to live them out and continue to give regularly, faithfully, joyfully and generously.

As we go into this new term, let’s be praying that our giving would continue to result in many expressions of thanks to God.

Thank you.

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