

Be Generous

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Jill Savage: You know as we think about the BeAttitudes of marriage, we wanna focus on being radically generous.

Mark Savage: And being radically generous will transform your marriage and your family.

JS: There's just no room for things being fair in marriage.

MS: Right. Well, fair doesn't exist.

JS: It doesn't.

MS: No. [chuckle]

JS: We really have to have a... We have to have a servant heart with one another. And when we have a servant heart, what we're doing is we're looking for ways to bless each other, we're looking for ways to help each other, to operate as a team, that we're working together.

MS: Right.

JS: And, yes, are there times where maybe a conversation needs to be had because somebody is carrying more of the load and that conversation needs to be had, certainly. But in general, sometimes we just need to examine our heart and whether there is true generosity in it, or if we're just trying to make sure that things are equal.

MS: Right.

JS: And so... I think this happened the other day in our relationship. You changed out the trash, and in our home, whichever one of us sees the trash being full, changes it out. But you had done it, and I had come from upstairs... Downstairs into the kitchen, and I saw that the trash containers didn't have the trash liners in them. And my first thought was, "Oh, Mark's changing the trash, and he'll put the liners in." And then I caught myself and I went, "No, I can put the liners in. I can put the liners in. I can serve him in the midst of him serving our family."

MS: Right. And I found myself very grateful. I walked in, ready to change or add new liners, and I saw that Jill had done it, and I even said to her, "Wow, thank you for taking care of the liners."

JS: And so that breeds appreciation, it breeds gratefulness. So, we've got to watch out for those places, where it's like, "Well, that's his chore," or, "That's her chore." Not that there aren't things... There are things that you do because you're physically stronger than I am. [chuckle] So, taking the

big garbage can out to our dumpster, we live in a country setting, I can't lift that thing into the dumpster and dump the trash in there, so definitely that's a place where you often do that. But I would say, in general, just watch out for those places where we get into habits and we forget that we can pick up the slack somewhere.

MS: Right. Right.

JS: To recognize that that's needed. The Book of Proverbs addresses this. It addresses it in Proverbs 11:24 and 25. And we love it in the message version.

MS: Yeah. It says, "The world of the generous gets larger and larger, and the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed, those who help others are helped."

JS: I love that. And what we want is we want more life in our relationship. And when you talk about large and small, you're talking about just the largeness of life in relationship, and so generosity is a beautiful way that we can bring life to our marriage. So, information plus application equals transformation. And when we have a radically generous heart, we don't get caught up on who does what, we can apply what we learn with a generous heart to experience transformation. So, be radically generous.

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