

DESIRE THE GIFTS - LIVE THE FRUITS

GENEROSITY-GOODNESS

GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



Psalm 31:20 How great is your goodness, Lord, stored up for those who fear you...you hide them in the shelter of your presence

Romans 15:14 I myself am convinced about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness

GENEROSITY-GOODNESS-

... not exactly the same meaning, but so intertwined that they become one. So many examples of generosity are in the Bible, God gave us Jesus, how much more generous could you get!

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life." Well, we cannot match that magnitude of generosity, but how can we try to in our own little ways?

In **Luke 21:1-4**, Jesus uses the story of a poor widow that gave all of her wealth, just two small coins, as an example

for us. Being generous doesn't have to be giving up all we have, but there are so many hurting people right now, and sometimes all they need is our time and attention. Our generosity could match, at least in intention, the same as those two small coins, and could make all the difference in a person's life. This is our opportunity to give, be generous, share the goodness within our hearts to others in need. We may not even think we have goodness to give, but our openness to spending just a few minutes in conversation with someone may change their whole day and give them the hope that Jesus desires for them. Generosity emanates the goodness that is part of our core, the goodness infilled within you at Baptism. And we are good, and have been from the beginning. In **John 6:5-15**, a little boy gave all his food, five barley loaves and two fish, to Andrew for them to be multiplied. The generosity of the boy started it all, Jesus miraculously worked with the boy's generosity and fed five thousand. One's goodness working with another to help others, perfect charity. **Genesis 1:31** confirms this, "God looked at everything He had made, and found it very good." We were created good, and are good now at the very core. God wants us to share the goodness, the fruit that is produced from the gifts and graces He gives you. How generous, how good is Our Father, now and forever. **HOLY SPIRIT COME!**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER TO ST. NICHOLAS THE FRUIT OF GENEROSITY-GOODNESS:

St. Nicholas, we ask for your prayers to Our Lord. We wish to grow in our desire for sincere generosity and goodness, achieved by you through the grace of The Holy Spirit. Pray that we may love as you loved, feel compassion as you did. Through intercession to Our Lord, we ask you to share your fruit of Christ-like generosity with us so we may imitate your goodness.

AMEN

