

4. Obedient giving **moves** you into blessings.
“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38

5. Obedient giving **prepares** you for heaven.
*“19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;
20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”* Matthew 6:19-20

6. Obedient giving **funds** your church.
“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18

III. JOANNA ANNOUNCED THE **RESURRECTION** OF JESUS CHRIST (Luke 24:1-12)

“And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” Romans 1:16

Will You Use The Ordinary Action Of Your Generosity To Be A Difference Maker?

THE DIFFERENCE MAKER Ordinary Actions For Eternal Impact My Generosity Can Make A Difference Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Are you ready to be a Difference Maker? If you are like most people, there’s something about sharing your faith that makes you clam up. When you think about talking to the unbelievers in your life about God, you worry that you may say the wrong things or that they may think negatively of you. But those thoughts are whispers and lies from an enemy hoping to keep you trapped in a life of little impact. God has called you to be a difference maker by being a light for Him.

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.” Matthew 5:14

B. God has uniquely positioned you to influence those around you for him. He wants to partner with you in changing people’s lives both now and for eternity. This teaching series will show you how you can begin using your everyday life to make a difference in the lives of those who don’t know Jesus.

Jan 6	My Readiness Can Make A Difference
Jan 20	My Story Can Make A Difference
Jan 27	My Good News Can Make A Difference
TODAY	My Generosity Can Make A Difference
Feb 10	My Invitation Can Make A Difference
Feb 17	My Love Can Make A Difference

C. **TEXT:** Luke 8:1-3; 24:1-12 (Pew Bible/Pg.1014/New Test)

MY GENEROSITY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Difference Maker Principle: My generosity can make an eternal difference.

I. JOANNA EXPERIENCED THE **BENEFITS** OF JESUS CHRIST (Luke 8:1-3a)

A. She experienced His **salvation**.

“1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
John 3:1-3

B. She experienced His **healing**. (8:2a)

“18 “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”

Luke 4:18-19

The proper response to His benefits...

“12 What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?

13 I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.

14 I will pay my vows to the LORD Now in the presence of all His people.”
Psalm 116:12-14

II. JOANNA SUPPORTED THE **WORK** OF JESUS CHRIST (Luke 8:3b)

A. Jesus talked a lot about money. One out of every six verses of Jesus’ teachings in the Bible dealt with money including twelve out of thirty eight of the parables.

“41 Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much.

42 Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans.

43 So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury;

44 for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.”

Mark 12:41-44

B. Obedient giving means to give at least the first 10% or more of your total gross income to God through the local church in a cheerful manner.

1. Obedient giving **draws** you closer to God.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.”
Matthew 23:23

2. Obedient giving **proves** your love for God.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
Matthew 6:21

3. Obedient giving **makes** you happy.

“ ... And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

Acts 20:35b