

Generosity: Making someone's day by giving something away.

PARENTING WITH GENEROSITY

How can I be generous - I've got nothing!

This month's value is generosity: making someone's day by giving something away.

Whether you are parenting a small child or a teenager, you may be wondering how you can encourage generosity. Maybe by the time they are in high school your child might be earning a paycheck, but for most of their 18 years, kids are living off of YOUR generosity. So how can they give?

Let us suggest a couple of ways to help this month:

First, help your child understand that even without money or possessions, they have a lot to give. Here are but a few ways you can suggest generosity:

For parent reflection:

- Where in your life are you generous?
- Where in your life do you hold back? Why do you think that might be?
- How can you encourage your kids to find ways to be generous?

- giving of their time to play video games with a younger sibling
- giving of their talents to play piano for a grandparent
- giving of compliments to friends and strangers
- giving of themselves to help with dishes, plan a meal, or do laundry

Generosity certainly has to do with giving of our finances (when available), but it doesn't rely solely on wealth to make a difference.

Second, our friend Dr. Beth Trammell once again has some amazing words of wisdom on our podcasts this month. You can find those on Spotify here: <https://open.spotify.com/show/2JrvhA8aCyv0gZv3GNz6zT> or you can find them on TuneIn, iTunes, or SoundCloud when you search Core Essential Values.

For conversation:

- What are three things you are good at? How can those be used to show generosity?
- If you could give away \$1 million, what would you do?



Making someone's day by giving something away

WEEK ONE: What do you have to give away?

When people talk about generosity, sometimes we think they mean giving away money. As a teenager, what do you "have" that you can be generous with? Maybe not in terms of physical possessions (although you may have those as well), but in other creative ways, how can you be generous with others?

FOCUS: What do I have to give?

WEEK TWO: Being generous when no one is looking

How can you make someone's day without them knowing it was you? How generous can you be if you are doing it simply for credit? How can you feel good about your generosity when no one knows that you gave something away? Is generosity for you, or for the person you are giving something to?

FOCUS: Be secretly generous

WEEK THREE: Day maker

How can you make someone's day? What kind of thing would make your day?

FOCUS: Be someone's day maker