## The Godly Quality of Generosity Charles Stanley

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Proverbs 11:24.
- B. The generous person attracts others.
- C. A generous person shares what he has.
- D. Generosity does not have to do with how much a person has.

II. God is a generous God. (Deuteronomy 28, Ephesians 3:20, John 1:16)

III. Generosity is not a feeling it is a choice.

IV. God intends for us to be generous. God has built in generosity into the whole plan of life. (Leviticus 19:9, I Timothy 6:17, Ephesians 4:28, Hebrews 13:16)

V. One should not wait to be generous. We ought to give sacrificially. (II Corinthians 8)

VI. Qualities of generous people.

- A. They are happier people.
- B. People are drawn to them.
- C. They give with no strings attached.
- D. They see needs as opportunities.
- E. They look to how much they can give.
- F. They are happy to receive opportunities to give.
- G. They trust God.
- H. They are other-centered.
- I. They have learned an exciting lesson that one cannot out-give God.
- J. They give sacrificially.
- K. They are fulfilled when other people's needs are met.
- VII. God prospers the generous person.
  - A. Bigger and better is not necessarily best.

B. The promise is that God blesses those who are generous.

VIII. Why we violate this principle.

- A. People do not believe God.
- B. People are selfish.
- C. People are rebellious.

IX. God gives abundantly back. (II Corinthians 9)

## **Application questions:**

1. What qualities of a generous person do you share?

2. What qualities of a generous person are you weak in? What can you do to grow in these areas?

3. How would you respond to someone who tells you that he does not have enough money to give? Explain.