

A Community Whose Middle Name Is Generous - Colossians 4:2-6

- i. Our first grandchild was born. The world delightfully stopped. A grandparent's job description is two words: love unconditionally. I thought that is the job description of a church toward the world and the way the generations co-exist within the faith community.
- ii. I felt total gratitude, which led to generosity of heart in order to be a blessing.

EVERY ONE OF US CAN GROW INTO GRATITUDE + GENEROSITY = BLESSING
BY LIVING THESE 3 DISCIPLINES ...

I. BE DEVOTED TO PRAYER

- a. "It's all about prayer!" Rod Bruns
- b. Public prayer in Scripture is always more important than private prayer.
- c. The highest prayer we can pray is one of gratitude and thanks to God for who God is.
- d. When we pray we begin to see the world as God sees it. We learn to laugh at what God laughs at and what God laments over.
- e. "Be watchful and thankful; pray for us to speak with boldness when the door is open and that it may be clear."
- f. PLEDGE to Pray cuz it leads to gratitude.

II. BE WISE IN CULTURAL HUMILITY

- a. "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders."
- b. "Treat others like insiders." Juan Sarmiento
- c. Cultural humility in art: fine art verses street art.
- d. Cultural humility in the hit television series "This is Us."
- e. It is so ironic how fast we spiral out of control with our "made up" narratives about the other.
- f. PLEDGE to be wise in cultural humility cuz it makes us generous.

III. SPEAK LIKE A GRACIST

- a. "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt."
- b. Grace (noun)- the freely given, unmerited favor and love of God.
- c. Why did Jesus ask 307 questions? He was full of grace. He never coerced. He always created space for grace to move in.
- d. PLEDGE to speak like a gracist cuz it spreads blessing like a holy virus.

Call to Action: There is a community whose middle name is *generous*. That place is called PPC!
MAKE A PLEDGE and return the card over the next two weeks or mail to office.