



It All Depends on Who's Hands It's In | Jimmy Rollins | 12.4.22

Weekly Study

## SHARE

This weekend, Jimmy continued our series of *Kingdom Builders* by helping us unpack the conversation of generosity. Jimmy dove into Scripture and challenged us to open our hands and watch God do what only he can do. As it is said often, being generous is one of the greatest things we can do for our spiritual journey as it is close to the heart of Jesus as well as it is here, at Red Rocks Church.

Before we jump into the study, take some time to check in with your group and ask the following questions:

- What is the most impactful or challenging thing you learned during Sunday's sermon?
- What did that thing teach you about God? About yourself?

## GROW

**Read John 6:1-5**

This week Jimmy brought light to the hands that the bread & fish went through to feed this crowd. Jesus first saw that there was a very real tangible need, the crowd was hungry. Jesus also recognized that these people had larger spiritual needs that required a supernatural response. Even though they didn't know it, they were following Jesus because their hearts were empty, they were hurting. Yes, they were physically hungry, but they were spiritually starving.

In this crowd of twenty thousand or so, there was a little boy that no one in the crowd would have thought mattered. No one would have imagined that what he was carrying in his lunch basket would not only be the provision of the moment but was purposefully chosen by God to be a significant piece of Jesus' redemptive plan not only for that day, but for the rest of human history. God uses ordinary people, in this case, a little boy to do extraordinary things. And what that means for us is that we're never just lost in the crowd. We're never without anything to offer. We never know who God will call out and use in ways that we cannot even begin to imagine.

**Do you ever feel like your story is lost? That you have little to nothing to offer?**

God knows us better than we even know ourselves. He knows where we are, what we have, or don't have and how he wants to use us. He is the Divine Author in each moment, writing our stories. He will do supernatural things with the small fragments of our lives that we tend to think aren't worth much. Just as this little boy, we too are invited to live with our hands wide open watching what God will do in and through us. This little boy was available and ready, the question for us is, are we?

As Jimmy lead us through the passing off of the little boy's lunch, it went from the boy then into the hands of Jesus, to the disciples and then into the hands of the people. All because of the generosity of this little boy, God used his little that he had to change the trajectory of eternity for generations to come.

**When it comes to generosity, do you tend to live a life with fists clenched or hands wide open?**

**Tell of a time that you have seen God use little and make it much for his Kingdom. Could be in your own life or in someone else's.**

## MOVE

**Read Luke 1:26-38, 46-55; Ephesians 3:20**

As we just read in the story about Mary who unlike Moses, who told God why he was not qualified for the job, Mary accepted the position, she embraced what was to come. Unlike Abraham's wife Sarah, who laughed when an angel told her that she would have a child, Mary accepted the news with a dull understanding that more than anything else, she was the "Lord's servant".

We read throughout Scripture that when God invites his people to live a life with open hands, he is asking them to do incredibly difficult things. If Mary had any fear, we do not get to hear it verbalized. But what we do know is that she was human just like us and we know that living a life with open hands can accompany fear. The words of Mary's song are directly from Scripture, which means that she put God's Word deep into her heart. She intimately knew God and that overshadowed any fear that may have tried to invade. Mary clung to the Word of God, and he steadied her for this calling.

**Tell of a time that fear has taken over your faith when it comes to saying "yes" to God?**

**How does knowing God intimately change the posture of your heart when it comes to generosity?**

We never know what God will ask of us or when he will ask it. We never know ahead of time what will happen when he does as we never know how God will redeem our small fragments and use them to give grace to the hungry. Or how he will change the world through our generosity, but what we do know is that he will do more than we could ever ask or imagine. So, just as Mary and little boy, let us open our hands and watch God do only what he can do.

How is God inviting you to be generous here at Red Rocks Church? It may be the invitation to be generous with your time, bringing a meal to a family in need or giving a financial gift. Talk through this with your group.

### This Week's Challenge

Ask God to show you how and when to be generous this week.

Each day, pray specifically for those that God will bless by your generosity. That they may know God in a deeper way because of your obedience to him.

### P R A Y

Take time to pray together asking God to show you this week how to love people well by being generous with your lives.

