

# ELEMENTS OF GENEROSITY

## **SMALL GROUP NOTES**

**JUNE 12 & 13, 2010**

**SERIES; ELEMENTS OF GENEROSITY: TIME**

**SPEAKER: PASTOR SCOTT LANIGAN**

### **SHARE**

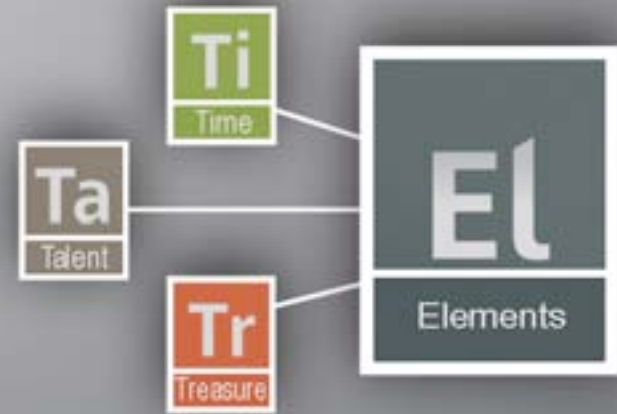
Take some time to talk about stories dealing with time within the group. Could be a memorable moment, a story about missing a plane, spouse who is always late, work projects, time away, or a moment you will never forget. Were they positive or negative? Why?

If you have chosen to follow Jesus, what is a moment, a specific time spent with him that sticks out? How did that impact or alter your actions? How is that moment reflected in your life today?

Practically speaking, what does time spent with Jesus look like in your community and in our world today?

Meyer Friedman – His definition of “Hurry Sickness”  
 “Above all, a continuous struggle and unremitting attempt to accomplish or achieve more and more things or participate in more and more events in less and less time, frequently in the face of opposition, real or imagined, from other persons.”

Do you agree or disagree with Friedman’s thoughts? Has that ever been a pattern in your life? How does your life look different than a person’s life who does not know Jesus, when it comes to time?



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## **STUDY**

Read through Ephesians 3:16-21 as a group. It's Paul's prayer for the believers in Ephesus. Pay close attention to verses 17-19.

Why is understanding God's love for us so important?

"Fullness" in verse 19 means the completeness of God's being. What do you picture that to be? In your own words, what do you think Paul prayed for the believers to experience?

There is another passage penned by Paul, Romans 11. At the end of it, Paul praises God for his absolute power and wisdom (vs 33-36). In Romans 12 Paul launches with, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship."

What does it mean to be a "living sacrifice" in Kelowna today?

(To be a living sacrifice means to live apart for God, living to please him. Yet is a process not a one time commitment)

## **SO WHAT**

Take the challenge of a Time assessment for one week. Today or tomorrow, write down the top 5 priorities in your life. The things you believe are most important to you. Beside each one, write down the percentage of time you feel should be devoted to them (One week is 168 hrs – assume 68 hours are for sleeping and getting ready etc.. therefore you are left with 100 hours or 100% of a week)

7 days later, write down the top 5 areas in which your time was actually spent and the percentage of the week it involved.

When you meet as a group next time, consider sharing your charts and how your actual time did or did not match up with your priorities.

Finish off by praying for the person on your left. Pray that they will be able to make the necessary sacrifices, adjustments and decisions to make time for God this week. Pray that as a group, God will help you to learn from each other and encourage each other along the journey.

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