



HOPE for everyone.

Want To Go Deeper? - Week 3

Historical Context

2 Samuel 24 is a significant chapter in the Old Testament, providing insight into King David's reign and his relationship with God. Here are some key historical contexts to consider:

1. **David's Census:** The chapter begins with David deciding to take a census of Israel and Judah. This act was seen as a lack of trust in God's provision and protection, as it suggested reliance on military strength and numbers rather than faith in God. In ancient Israel, censuses were often associated with military conscription or taxation, and conducting one without divine instruction was considered an act of pride or self-reliance.
2. **Divine Judgment:** As a result of the census, God was displeased, and David was given a choice of three punishments: three years of famine, three months of fleeing from enemies, or three days of plague. David chose the plague, demonstrating his preference to fall into the hands of God rather than human enemies, trusting in God's mercy.
3. **The Plague and David's Repentance:** The plague resulted in the death of 70,000 men. David's response was one of repentance and intercession for his people. He acknowledged his sin and pleaded with God to spare the people, offering himself and his family as the ones to bear the punishment.
4. **The Threshing Floor of Araunah:** David was instructed by the prophet Gad to build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. This location is significant because it later became the site of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem. David's purchase of the threshing

floor and his insistence on paying for it, rather than accepting it as a gift, underscores the principle that true sacrifice must cost something.

5. **Theological Themes:** The chapter highlights themes of sin, judgment, repentance, and atonement. It illustrates the importance of obedience to God and the consequences of relying on human strength rather than divine guidance. It also emphasizes the concept of sacrificial giving, as David refused to offer to God something that cost him nothing.
6. **Connection to the Sermon:** In the sermon, the story of David's census and subsequent actions is used to illustrate the importance of sacrificial giving and trust in God. The narrative serves as a backdrop for encouraging the congregation to engage in sacrificial giving as part of their faith journey and commitment to the church's mission.

Understanding these historical contexts helps to grasp the depth of the narrative and its application in both ancient and contemporary settings.

Word Study

thusia: Sacrifice, offering

Original Word: **θυσία**

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: thusia

Pronunciation: thoo-see'-ah

Phonetic Spelling: (thoo-see'-ah)

KJV: sacrifice

NASB: sacrifice, sacrifices

Word Origin: θύω - kill

1. sacrifice (the act or the victim)
{literally or figuratively}

thuó: To sacrifice, to slay, to kill

Original Word: **θύω**

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: thuó

Pronunciation: thoo'-o

Phonetic Spelling: (thoo'-o)

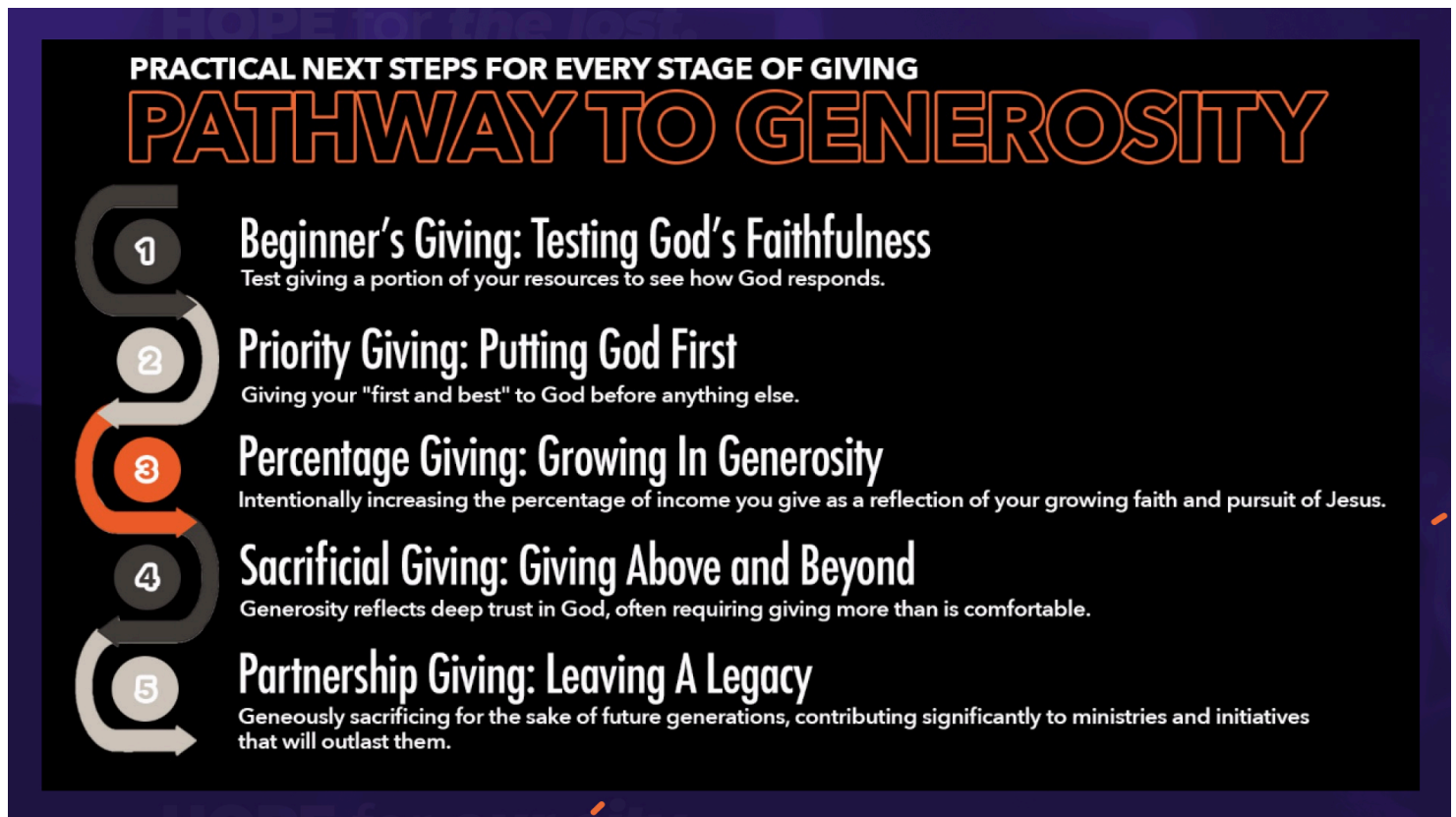
KJV: kill, (do) sacrifice, slay

NASB: kill, sacrificed, killed, sacrifice, butchered, offer sacrifice, offering sacrifice

Word Origin: a primary verb

1. (properly) to rush (breathe hard, blow, smoke)
2. (by implication) to sacrifice
3. (implication, genitive case) to sacrifice by fire
4. (by extension) to give up to destruction (for any purpose)

Pathway of Generosity



Deeper Application

- 1. Sacrificial Giving as Worship:** The sermon emphasizes that true worship involves sacrifice. Just as David insisted on paying for the threshing floor to offer a sacrifice that cost him something, believers today are encouraged to give in a way that reflects genuine sacrifice. This means offering to God not just out of abundance, but in a way that requires faith and trust in His provision.
- 2. Trust in God's Provision:** The narrative of David's census and the resulting consequences highlight the importance of trusting in God rather than relying on human resources or strength. The sermon challenges the congregation to trust God with their finances and resources, believing that He will provide and bless their faithfulness.
- 3. Community and Mission:** The sermon calls the church to unite in a common mission to bring hope to everyone. This involves creating space for others, both physically in the church building and spiritually in their hearts. The congregation is encouraged to engage fully in the church's mission, recognizing that their collective efforts can have an eternal impact.
- 4. Legacy of Faith:** The sermon draws a parallel between the sacrifices made by previous generations and the current call to action. Just as past sacrifices have allowed the church to thrive, the congregation is invited to consider what legacy they will leave for future generations. This involves a commitment to sacrificial giving and active participation in the church's mission.
- 5. Personal Reflection and Action:** The sermon encourages personal reflection through the prayer, "God, what do You want to do through me?" This invites individuals to seek God's

guidance on how they can contribute to the church's mission, whether through financial giving, volunteering, or other forms of service.

Challenge

Are we willing to step out in faith and make a sacrifice that truly costs us something? Are we ready to trust God with our resources, our time, and our talents, believing that He will use them to bring hope and transformation to our community?

Imagine the impact we could have if each of us decided to give sacrificially, not just from our abundance, but in a way that stretches our faith and deepens our trust in God. What if we all prayed, "God, what do You want to do through me?" and then acted on His leading?

This is not just about financial giving; it's about engaging fully in the mission of the church. It's about making room in our hearts and lives for others, creating a space where hope can flourish. It's about leaving a legacy of faith for future generations, just as those before us have done.