

Rx
diagnosis

ENTITLEDUDE

GENEROSITY



entitledude
generosity

Entitledude is the attitude of entitlement.

Entitlement is when a privilege becomes the expectation.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

When privileges become expectations, I won't experience the joy and blessings of life.

We control what we believe we are entitled to have.

- **Entitledude prevents me from being generous.**
- **When I believe I'm entitled to it, I won't be generous with it.**

³⁶ When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume.

³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

⁴¹ "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

⁴³ Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

⁴⁴ Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

⁴⁹ The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Luke 7:36-50 (NIV)

- **My gratitude is expressed in my generosity.**
- **My love is expressed through my generosity.**
- **My generosity is directly connected with my faith.**

^{12:1} Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it (continued on the other side).

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⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

John 12:1-8 (NIV)

- **My generosity is an act of obedience.**
- **My generosity is hindered by wanting control.**

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I am not entitled to it, so I will be generous with it.

I am grateful for all God has given me, and I will express my love for Him by giving generously.

Because God has generously forgiven me, I will surrender control of all I am and all I have for His Kingdom purpose.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

What do you like to control?

Many people will say they aren't controlling until they are put in a situation where something they value is no longer under their control. Once that happens, we all find out how much we cherish control.

A desire to control things can lead to many things, but an often overlooked byproduct of a controlling nature is a lack of generosity.

Far too often we are not generous with what we cling the tightest too, and when we are not generous, we are being disobedient.

Jesus was generous with grace, forgiveness, and love, up to, and including, lovingly giving up His life. His generous nature is what we are supposed to follow. Far too often, we cling to the sinful and disobedient idea that what we have belongs to us, so we must control it.

So, what do you like to control? Are you ready to give it up because of what Jesus gave up for you?

TALK-IT-OVER:

Why do you think it is hard for you to let go completely of control and trust Jesus with what is already His?

What is something you need to let go of controlling so that you can deepen your faith in Jesus?

What is one next step you can take today?

Who do I need to tell about this?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

Day 1: 2 Corinthians 8:1-12

Day 2: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Day 3: Psalm 37:21; Proverbs 11:24-26

Day 4: 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

Day 5: 2 Chronicles 29:10-16

Day 6: Matthew 25:31-46