

LWYL PRACTICES

GRATITUDE, CONTENTMENT & GENEROSITY SURVEY

"We belong to the same family as those who are wealthy, and our children are just like theirs. Yet we must sell our children into slavery just to get enough money to live. We have already sold some of our daughters, and we are helpless to do anything about it, for our fields and vineyards are already mortgaged to others."

Nehemiah 5:5

AFTER THINKING IT OVER...

The words above reveal another aspect of the brokenness that Nehemiah encountered as he worked to rebuild the city walls of Jerusalem. A broken community marked by inequity. A brokenness that produced deep emotion and that moved him to pause and think (v. 7). The practice below is designed to help you do the same. To help you think about your relationship to the things you possess, and how that relationship impacts the way you live and work for the good of the neighborhood and city where God has planted you. In Nehemiah, it's clear that a time of reflection led to a time of redemptive action. May this practice produce the same in you.

THE PRACTICE

Take a moment to consider what you have, and choose the option that best describes each area below: lacking (LA), adequate (AD), abundant (AB), luxurious (LU).

Next, assess your contentment in each area. Finally, consider the questions to the right that relate to generosity.

Food LA AD AB LU
Satisfaction: Yes No

What did the survey stir up within you?

Clothing LA AD AB LU
Satisfaction: Yes No

How does the extent of what you have relate to your default posture when it comes to generously sharing with others?

Shelter LA AD AB LU
Satisfaction: Yes No

Transportation LA AD AB LU
Satisfaction: Yes No

In light of this experience, what action do you feel compelled to take?

Health Care LA AD AB LU
Satisfaction: Yes No

Education LA AD AB LU
Satisfaction: Yes No

Adapted from *Free: Spending Your Time & Money On What Matters Most* by Mark Scandrette