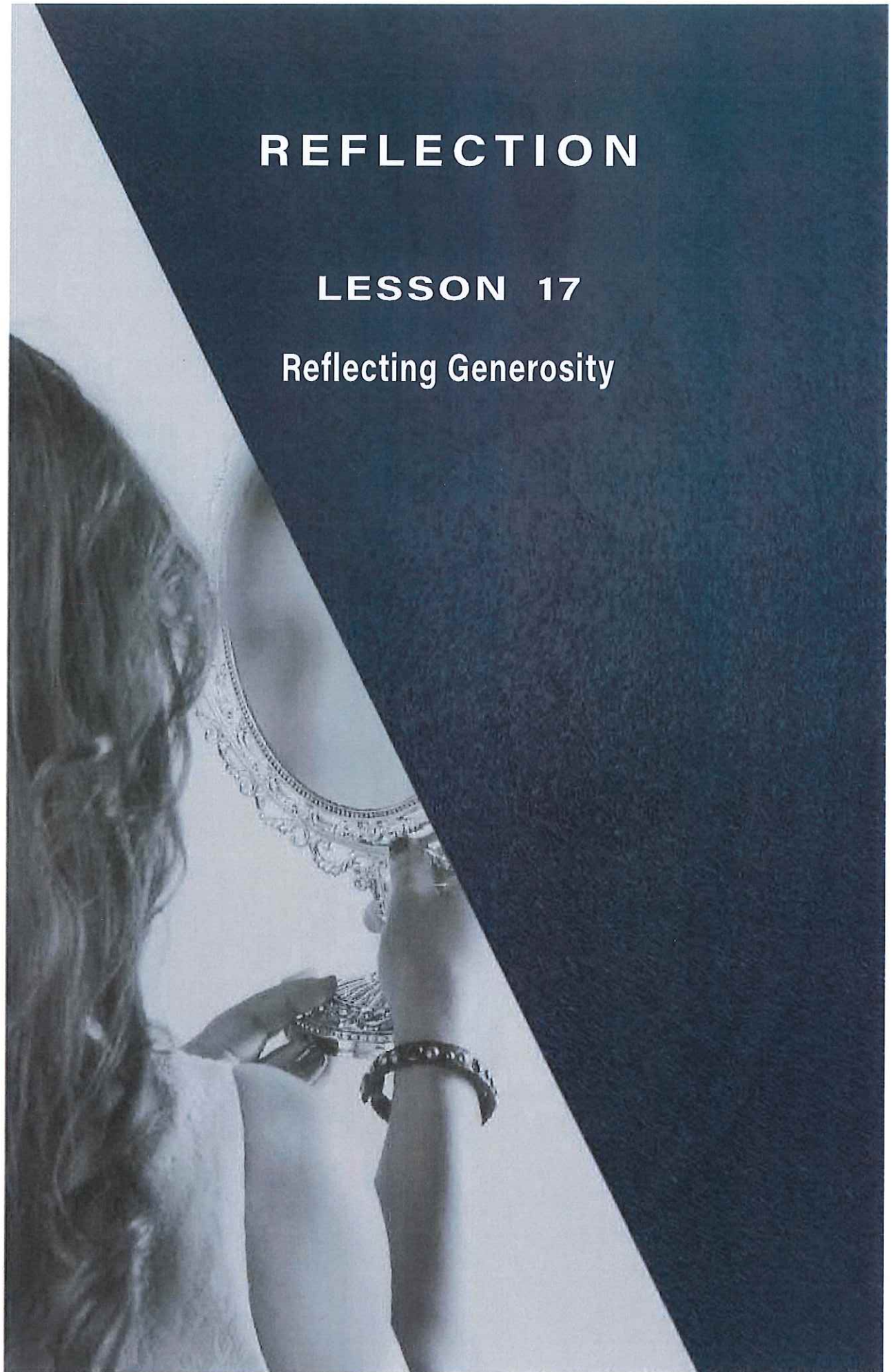


REFLECTION

LESSON 17

Reflecting Generosity



REFLECTION

Lesson 17 Reflecting Generosity

Philippians 4:14-18

"HE WHO IS GENEROUS TO THE NEEDY HONORS HIM."
PROVERBS 14:31b

- A. **Commendable** partnership
1. Generosity partners with **ministry**.
 - a. The Philippian church actively **participated** with Paul **financially**.
 - b. The Philippian church made them a **partner** in his **trials**.
 2. Generosity reveals a spiritually **healthy heart**.
 - a. It reflects a heart that has been **restored**.
 - b. It reflects a heart that desires to **please** God.
- B. **Outstanding** generosity
1. We are to have a generous **character**.
 2. We are called to **enable** others to do **ministry** work.

"But the call to give to reach the world has not gripped our souls unless we ourselves are giving sacrificially to this end. However, if we are generous in our support of evangelism and mission, then there is a boon - becoming full-fledged members of the fellowship of the gospel!"

Kent Hughes

WE CAN HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT GENEROSITY HAS IMMENSE VALUE.

A. Paul wanted them to know his true motive.

"Paul's kind assurances could be taken by certain of his hearers as a...manipulation to give more, so he inserts a disclaimer in vs. 17."

Kent Hughes

B. Paul wanted them to know they were making a Heavenly investment.

WE ARE PRESENTED WITH A FAMILIAR OLD TESTAMENT PICTURE.

A. An aroma pleasing to God

B. God is pleased with the generous heart.

**"Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box.
⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."**

Mark 12:43-44