

LORD, you are great and powerful.
You have glory, victory, and honour.
Everything in heaven and on earth
belongs to you.
The kingdom belongs to you, LORD;
you are the ruler over everything.

1 Chronicles 29:11



THE PARISH OF CHALFONT ST PETER

Encounter God, Encourage Others, Engage our World
Charity Number: 1146043



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FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

21st May 2017

Generous Giving

Building for God



**CHALFONT
ST. PETER
PARISH CHURCHES**

KNOW WHAT:

- This week we are concluding our short series on Generosity and Stewardship.
- God is an incredibly generous God who loves us and always wants to provide the best for us. He has made us stewards of all that he has given us, to use wisely for ourselves and for others.
- King David (of Goliath fame) loved God and wanted to build a temple, but God said that he had seen too much war and Solomon, David's son, would be the one to build the temple.
- God gave what he could to make sure the temple was built and when he died King Solomon oversaw the design and construction of the temple.
- God's people brought whatever they could to help the temple get built -materials, skills and money.
- Once the temple was completed, everyone came together to celebrate and worship God.

SO WHAT:

- God has given us lots of things and it is right for us to bring them to him as an act of worship.
- As God's people we can use our gifts, our skills and our money to be part of what he is doing.

NOW WHAT:

- Let us thank God for his good gifts.
- Let us consider how we can reflect God's generosity in our own giving be it time, money, skills or service of others.

LUKE'S LETTERS:

I didn't get the chance to meet Alice Jones, but I know who she was and I know what was important to her. Alice loved families, she loved children, she loved teenagers. When she died she gave a gift to the Parish that helped to fund the parish's desire to employ a Children and Families' minister.

I didn't meet Alice, but those who knew her still talk about her love for children and families. It makes me wonder what people will say about me when I am gone, or even what they say about me now. What am I known for? How do I show what is most important to me? Would I like what people said about me if I heard it.

Ultimately what other people say doesn't matter, not really. I shouldn't be hostage to the opinion or approval of others. Ben always encourages me to think of having an audience of one—God is my audience. That said what I do and what I say affects how people perceive me and, because I am a Christian, affects how people view God.

How does what you say and do reflect God's love in you? How does it impact those around you? We don't need to strive for approval but we do need to make sure that what we do shows what we value.

The things that Alice valued were clear. They have lasted, and her response to God's blessing has flowed out into the lives of others.