

# AN OPENHANDED LIFE

12•10•2025

LUKE 21:3-4

In Luke 21:3-4 (ESV) Jesus said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

I remember my grandmother Lucy telling me when I was young, “You can’t out-give God.” Years later I asked her exactly what she meant by that, and she pointed out that everything we have belongs to God—not just our money and possessions but our bodies, our time, and talents. Grandmother Lucy was

talking about living an “openhanded” life. In Jesus’ teaching about the widow, we see someone who lived an openhanded, generous life, in spite of her financial limitations. The season of Advent reminds us that in Jesus, God generously gave us his very best; he held nothing back.

Like the widow, the more we experience God’s loving kindness toward us, the more we’ll trust God’s provision for our future and the more freedom we’ll feel in letting go of things we possessively cling to. Our hearts can find satisfaction in him.

## PRAYER

*Father God, in this time of Advent, expand our hearts with humility and move us to be generous givers of our resources, our time, and our gifts. Through your Spirit, teach us to live self-forgetting lives so that we might live generously, all for your glory. Amen.*



BY ALAN EDICK  
Pastor of Care

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24**  
FAMILY SERVICE | 4PM  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE | 7 + 11PM

## LET HIM IN

Luke 2:1-20