



# BeScrooged: Imagining a Full Life of Generosity

*Gordon MacDonald, Mark MacDonald*

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Few among us are quite so lost as the anti-hero of A Christmas Carol. Ebenezer Scrooge lives a small, miserable life in sooty nineteenth-century London, rebuffing affection and offering none, showing a high disdain for the hungry and the sick, dismissing charity, faith, and family as nothing but a humbug. But the great moral of the tale lies in Scrooge's seemingly miraculous transformation; he awakens from a shattering dream the very opposite of his former self—a person who loves, shares, and gives with unusual generosity. What if we all could take a dose of Scrooge's healing medicine? What if we all possessed the power to see ourselves and the world anew—and be better people for it? In their challenging new book *BeScrooged*, father-and-son authors Gordon and Mark MacDonald show us how we can do just that. Their prescription for change is not to await an overnight visitation but to embark on a deliberate journey of reflection and action in our daily lives. Drawing on deep experience—Gordon as a longtime evangelical Christian pastor and bestselling author, Mark as the marketing strategist behind some of our era's most influential Christian ministries—the MacDonalds have spent more than a decade helping to build a global movement for Christian generosity. In *BeScrooged* the authors distill their insights into an easy-to-follow yet penetrating four-week program for developing the joyful, life-changing spirit of giving that lies of the heart of this movement. For each week, the authors introduce us to a new theme. Each day of the week comes with a biblical reading and commentary, followed by questions for thought and discussion and a real-world “BeScrooged Activity” designed to help participants connect the chapter's insights to their own lives. The ultimate destination? An Ebenezer-like “full-life generosity” that encompasses how we deploy our worldly goods, emotional resources, and physical and spiritual energies. • In Week One: We meet seven Scrooges of the Bible and ask ourselves, What do I worship, crave, obsess over? These may be the very things that stand in our way. • In Week Two: We learn about seven powerful ways Jesus Christ embraced and embodied generosity. How can we follow his example with friends and strangers alike? • In Week Three: Called to Full-Life Generosity, the authors offer seven biblically grounded and faith-based answers to the question, Why should we live generously? • In Week Four: Full-Life Generosity, we discover seven fundamental elements of the fully generous life, from encouragement to hospitality to being a doer eager to serve alongside others. In their friendly tone and hopeful message the MacDonalds enact the generosity they wish to cultivate. Readers will come away from *BeScrooged* just as Ebenezer awakened Christmas morning, looking forward with giddy delight to all the good they can do in the world.

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