

Grow Deeper: Generosity

March 6, 2016

Bible Verses & Quotes

"One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered." – Proverbs 11:24-25

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." – Matthew 6:21

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
- Proverbs 11:25

"There is more happiness in giving than in receiving." Acts 20:35

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Corinthians 9:7

"A lack of generosity refuses to acknowledge that your assets are not really yours, but God's." - Tim Keller

"Generosity is impossible apart from our love of God and of His people. But with such love, generosity not only is possible but inevitable." - John MacArthur

"He, who gives what he would as readily throw away, gives without generosity; for the essence of generosity is in self-sacrifice." - Jeremy Taylor

"Since my money is God's money, every spending decision I make is a spiritual decision." - John Hagee

"We should never think that once we have given some money and time to the Lord that the rest is ours to do with as we please. All that we have belongs to God, so He should be taken into consideration in everything we do." - Theodore Epp

"Giving is a spiritual discipline that is often, unfortunately, associated with obligation. And for many, the discipline of giving is also wrought with fear—if I give away some of my very limited resources, how I will ever have enough? Giving changes your perspective. You realize how much you have. When we give, we get a glimpse of the abundance of God. When we hoard out of fear, we live in a mindset of scarcity that robs us of intimacy with God." - Keri Wyatt Kent

Resources

The Heart That Gives: Seven Traits of Joyful Stewardship by Fr. Thomas J. Connery

The Generosity Revolution by Paul Hatfield

More or Less: Choosing a Lifestyle of Excessive Generosity by Jeff Shinabarger

Stewardship of Life - <http://www.stewardshipoflife.org/>

Articles on personal and church-wide stewardship and generosity

Financial Peace University – www.fpu.com

Practical classes on managing money God's way including debt management, budgets and savings

Try It This Week

Cultivate a generous heart by giving a way part of yourself every day this week. Sacrificially give of your time, talent and treasure to build the Kingdom of God, and do so without expecting anything back in return. See how God speaks to you this week through these small acts of generosity.

Here are a couple of ideas to get you started...

- Take a coworker out to lunch and spend time catching up with them
- Buy an extra bag of groceries while you are at the store and donate it to the Peace of Bread Food Pantry
- Give an unexpected donation to the church or your favorite Christian charity
- Clean out your closet and donate gently used items to the POB Clothing Pantry
- Help out or visit an elderly neighbor this week
- Give the gift of time and do something special with your child(ren) or spouse