

GENEROSITY

F O R U M

Speaker: Dick Savidge

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Why Be Generous

When it comes to giving, some people stop at nothing.

What you think you own, is just on loan.

Generous Giving Duplicates God's Generosity

- "Everything we have *comes from you Lord*, and we can only give you what is yours already!" 1 Chr. 29:14 (LB)
- "We all live off *God's generous bounty*, gift after gift." John 1:16 (Mes)
- "God *gives to all* generously and ungrudgingly." James 1:5 (RSV)
- "Do you remember the *generosity of Jesus Christ*, the Lord of us all? He was rich beyond our telling, yet he became poor for your sake so that his poverty might make you rich." 2 Cor. 8:9 (Ph)

Generous Giving Draws Me To God

- "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matt. 6:21 (NIV)

Generous Giving Defeats Materialism

- "You cannot serve both God and money." Matt. 6:24 (NIV)

Generous Giving Defines My Priorities

- "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our *enjoyment*. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and *to be generous and willing to share*. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, *so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life*." 1 Tim. 6:17-19 (NIV)

Generous Giving Develops My Faith

- "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, whoever *sows generously* will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Cor. 9:6-9 (NIV)

- “Your giving proves the reality of your faith ...” 2 Cor. 9:13 (Phillips)

Generous Giving Demonstrates Community

- “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you *perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.*” 2 Cor. 9:11-12 (NIV)
- “Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may *provide for daily necessities* and not live unproductive lives.” Titus 3:14 (NIV)
- “If you see some brother or sister *in need* and have the means to do something about it but *turn a cold shoulder and do nothing*, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And *you made it disappear.*” 1 John 3:17 (Mes)
- “All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had.” Acts 4:32 (NIV)

Generous Giving Deepens My Joy

- “Jesus said, “There is *more happiness* in giving than in receiving.” Acts 20:35

Generous Giving Determines My Blessing

- “Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will *bless you in all your work* and in *everything you put your hand to.*” Deut. 15:10 (NIV)
- “Generous people will be blessed ...” Pr. 22:9 (NCV)
- “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” 2 Cor. 9:11 (NIV)
- “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38 (NIV)
- “Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.” Pr. 3:9-10 (NIV)
- “A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.” Pr. 11:25 (NIV)
- “Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely, who conducts his affairs with justice. Surely he will never be shaken; a righteous man will be remembered forever.” Ps. 112:5-6 (NIV)

Generous Giving Is A Deposit In Eternity

- “... Store up *for yourselves* treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.” Matt. 6:20 (NIV)

- “Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.” 1 Tim. 6: 18-19 (NIV)

Generous Giving Displays God's Glory

- “You will be *glorifying God* through your generous gifts” 2 Cor. 9:13