

LOVING GOD OUT LOUD (PART 3)
LIVING A LIFE OF INTENTIONAL GENEROSITY
11/20/2022

I. Introduction

- A. We are in a series considering the challenge Jesus gave us to turn our personal faith into something that makes a public difference and impact for Jesus. God's plan is to make us a people, who don't just have His river flow into us, but also powerfully _____.

The more we let the goodness of God flow out of us the more it changes us and the world around us (Isaiah 58:6-12 NIV, James 1:27).

- B. Today we want to talk about one of the main ways Jesus taught us to love God out loud and that is through _____.

- *"And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. (Matthew 5:40-42 NIV)*
- *"So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you openly." (Matthew 6:2-4 NIV)*
- *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:19-21 NIV)*
- *"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Matthew 6:24-26 NIV)*
- *"But seek first the kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33 NIV)*

II. Reasons why Jesus tells us we should live a life of intentional generosity

- A. It glorifies God, brings _____, and makes Jesus real to those in need. Generosity takes our lives beyond success to significance. Everywhere we are generous, we take what was just a job or a hobby and turn it into a mission. *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven."* (Matthew 5:16 NIV)
- B. The more His kindness and love flows out of us, the more it _____.
- *"that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." (Matthew 5:45 NIV)*
 - *"...for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matt. 6:21)*
- C. When you break the spirit of poverty in your life, you are able to _____ from things like greed, discontentment, worry, and resentment. Generosity doesn't just take people out of poverty; it takes poverty out of people. If you don't stay outwardly focused you will become inwardly _____ with greed, resentment, or worry.

- D. When you take something that is temporal and make it something _____, you maximize the blessings of God. Generosity is when you take something that was good for today and make it something that is great forever. You turn an earthly possession into an eternal reward.
- E. You discover the secret to having the _____ in and overflowing in every area of your life. In God's economy you give to get; you are spilled so you can be filled. When generosity is first everything else is provided.

"You can no more empty your pockets of money by giving, than you can empty your heart by loving."
-Wayne Myers

"God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all you need, you will abound in every good work.... Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched 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. 9:8, 10-11 NIV)

III. Keys to giving in ways that change everything

- A. Make giving something you _____ intentionally. God wants our first fruits not our leftovers. "If you don't tell your money where to go, you'll wonder where it went."

Five things you can do with money -Ron Blue

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|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Spend it | Me first |
| 2. Repay debt | Creditors second |
| 3. Pay taxes | Government third |
| 4. Save it | Me fourth |
| 5. Give it | Others last |

- B. Give beyond money, especially by taking the high road, going the _____, and putting others first.
- C. See all that you possess today in light of _____. Focus everything you do, keep, and give now based on what will _____.
- D. Focus on giving out of the _____. Obedience is important but passionately loving God and people is our motive. The key is realizing and reflecting on Jesus' love and giving to you.
- E. Learn to give _____. We are called to give not based on what's in our pocket but what He says in His pocket, He wants to give through us. God promises to be the One who will provide seed for the Sower.
- F. Compound the power of giving by _____ with others as a team. (Legacy offering)

(Answers: A. flows out of us B. intentional generosity II. A. Heaven close B. grows in us C. live free, burdened D. eternal E. provision of God III. A. do first B. second mile C. eternity, matter then C. right motives D. right motives E. by faith F. giving together)