

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Acts 20:35 (TEV) "Remember the words the Lord Jesus Himself said, 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'"

INTRODUCTION: Key Bible words.

1. Believe - _____ times
2. Pray - _____ times
3. Love - _____ times
4. Give - _____ times

Luke 6:38 (NIV) "Give and it will be given to you... For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."

FOUR THINGS THE BIBLE PROMISES BY GIVING

1. GIVING _____ ME _____ LIKE GOD.

John 3:16 (NIV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son..."

- You can _____ without _____.
- You cannot _____ without _____.

2. GIVING _____ ME _____ TO GOD

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

- Key: When I _____ to God, it moves me _____ to God

3. GIVING IS A _____ OVER _____.

1 Timothy 6:17 – 19 (NIV) "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 be generous and willing to share. In this way... They may take hold of the life that is truly life!"

- You make a “living’ by what you g_____.
- You make a “life” by what you g_____.
- A response to TV commercials: “WHO ARE YOU KIDDING?”

Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB) “The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your lives.”

4. **GIVING** _____ **ME** _____.

I Chronicles 29:9 (NIV) “The people rejoiced ... for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord. David also rejoiced greatly.”

- Don’t “give until it _____”.
- Do give because it _____.

THREE WAYS TO ENJOY AN OFFERING

1. **GIVE** _____.

II Corinthians 8:12 (NIV) ¹²For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

- Giving is not a matter of w_____; but of w_____.

I Corinthians 9:7a (NIV) “Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under pressure...”

I Corinthians 9:7b (NIV) “... for God loves a cheerful giver!”

- Jesus’ sermon on _____ Mount.
- Pastor’s sermon on the _____ mount.

2. **GIVE** _____

I Chronicles 29:2, 3, 14 (NIV) “With all my resources... over and above... generously.”

II Corinthians 8:3-4 (NIV) ³“For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.”

II Corinthians 9:6 (NIV) “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

- Giving is not a _____ we owe.
- Giving is a _____ we sow!

3. GIVE _____.

Psalm 116:12 (NIV) “How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?”

- Giving is an _____ to give back to God.

THE STARTING POINT

II Corinthians 8:5 (NIV) ⁵And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

- They first gave themselves _____.