

More Blessed to Give

God blesses us so that we might bless others

- God blesses us so that we might bless others
 - We see this as a pattern throughout the Scriptures
 - 2 Corinthians 9:8-11; Genesis 12:1-3; Deuteronomy 16:17, 15:13-14; 1 Peter 4:10; Luke 12:48
- “God blesses us so that we might bless others” is a common saying, and it’s true, but I think it could be improved
 - I would change it to “God blesses us so that we might bless others, so that we might be truly blessed in being a blessing to others” (Acts 20:35)
- This is how He designed creation to work

God wants Christians to be generous

Three reasons we should want to be generous

- The Scriptures plainly tell us to be generous
 - Psalm 37:21, 25-26; Proverbs 14:31, 19:17; 1 Timothy 6:17-18; Luke 6:32-35
- Money is something you can use to guide your heart (Matthew 6:19-21)
- Money is in some sense a foundational matter of spiritual maturity (Luke 3:7-14, 16:10-12)

We should be people who actively seek to give

- When I say seeking to give, I mean you semi-regularly take time to think and strategize about it
- A person who seeks to give
 - Thinks about how they can have more money
 - Thinks about what they can best give to

My recommendations

- Have a budget system
- Get minimalistic
- The 2/3rds split

Tips for having more desire to give

- Think about eternity
- Have double motives (faith and love)
- Don’t overextend yourself (2 Corinthians 9:7)
- Choose to rejoice when you give
 - Rejoicing is a choice
 - Think about the good it will bring others, and decide you're glad about it
 - Think about the reward you will get and decide you're glad about it
- Ask God to give you more desire to give

If we really take Jesus’ promises to heart, we’ll seek to give radically

- Jesus’ promises
 - Your reward will be great (Luke 6:32-35)
 - Lay up treasure in Heaven (Matthew 6:19-21)
 - The truth of this passage is deep, and if we really took it to heart, we’d be seeking to give with near reckless abandon

Conclusion

- God blesses us so that we might bless others, so that we might be blessed in being a blessing to others
- God wants Christians to be generous
- If we really take Jesus' promises to heart, we'll seek to give radically

Append A: Passive Giver/Active Giver

- Passive giver
 - A passive giver is someone who gives occasionally when a need comes up or when someone is asking for money
 - A passive giver tends to think and feel that the main purpose of their finances is to use for themselves
 - A passive giver doesn't strategize about how to have more money, or if they do it's about how to have more to spend on what they want
 - A passive giver thinks more about how money can help them even better enjoy life now
- Active giver
 - An active giver is someone who seeks out opportunities to give
 - An active giver has the attitude that the main purpose for their finances is to expand God's kingdom
 - An active giver strategizes about how to have more money so that they can give even more money
 - An active giver thinks more about how money can help them even better enjoy eternity