

THRIVING IN A \$45 A BARREL ECONOMY

Part 3 - Giving Is Good
Luke 6:38

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1. INTRODUCTION

Nowhere do we see giving spoken of more clearly and simply than by Jesus' words.

Luke 6:38 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. (NIV)

2. JESUS' COMMANDED US TO GIVE FOR OUR ULTIMATE **BENEFIT**.

- A. *Psalm 24:1 The earth is the LORD's, and **everything** in it, the world, and all who live in it.*
- B. *John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He **gave** His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*
- C. *Matthew 16:25 For anyone who keeps his life for himself shall lose it; and anyone who loses his life for Me shall find it again.*
- D. *Proverbs 11:24-25 The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. ²⁵ The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped. (MSG)*

3. IF GIVING IS GOOD THEN HOW DO WE GET **BETTER** AT IT?

A. Give **strategically**. Plan to give. Learn to trust God with the tithe.

1. *Leviticus 27:30 A **tithe** of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. (NIV)*
2. *Acts 20:35 ...Remember the words the Lord Jesus Himself said: 'It is **more** blessed to give than to receive.'* (NIV)
3. *2 Corinthians 9:11 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. (NIV)*
4. *Philippians 4:19 My God shall supply your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*

B. Give spontaneously. Meet a need when God touches your heart to do so.

Action Steps I will take this week...

- 1 I accept the truth that throughout the Bible the act of giving in every aspect of life is always the key to receiving God's best in my life.
- 2 I accept that the Bible teaches to give strategically through learning how to trust God with the tithe.
- 3 My heart is open to letting God continue to show me how He will bless me through planned giving through tithing and beyond.
- 4 My heart is open to continue spontaneous giving as God shows me needs He intends for me to meet.

CDs and DVDs of today's sermon or previous sermons are available for purchase after the service at our Water's Edge Resource Center.

Notes:
