

Make an Impact Through Giving: Generosity

Sunday a.m. 4/15/2018

- ❖ We are continuing our series entitled **Make an Impact Through Giving**
- ❖ We will see what God's word teaches us about money and stewardship

- ✚ Last week, we talked about this fact: **God owns it all!**
- ✚ Today, we will talk about **Generosity**

✧ **We will look today at giving through this question:
What happens when we give?**

John 6:5-13

- ❖ Jesus fed 5,000 people with a boy's 2 fish and 5 loafs of bread
- **Let's see What happens when we give?**

■ We Honor God when We Give

✧ **Remember, God owns it all**

- ❖ The boy honored Jesus when he gave his lunch to Jesus
- ❖ The Bible tells us to give first to God's work through the local church
- **Why does God ask us to give our tithe to His Church?**

✧ **He knows that our hearts are connected to our treasure**

Matthew 6:19-21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- ✚ This is why we spend so much money on our children...we love them
- ✚ They are our treasure, so that is where our heart is
- ✚ We wanted our children to be involved in school activities, church events
- ✚ There were times we had to cut back so they could be involved

✧ Your heart is there, so you can't stop thinking about it

✧ When you give to God's Work, it automatically connects your heart to God's Work!

✧ The boy honored Jesus by giving up his lunch of 5 loaves and 2 fish and it connected the boy to the miracle Jesus performed

- ❖ God has a plan for financing His work since He calls us to do His work
- ❖ The biblical standard is to give 10%, a tithe, of our income to God
- ❖ Giving 10 percent can seem impossible when bills need to be paid
- ❖ I started tithing with my first job when I was 16 and have continued

Malachi 3:10a (NKJV)

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,"

- ❖ The principle of tithing is the foundation of giving
 - ✚ Abram gave Melchizedek 10% of the spoils of a battle (**Genesis 14**)
 - ✚ 10% was required to support priests, Levites, poor and widows
 - ✚ Tithing in the Old Testament supported God's work for Israel

✧ Jesus said that He came to full fill the law

Matthew 5:17 (NKJV)

"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

- ❖ That includes tithing




• What is the storehouse?

- ✓ A "savings account" that took care of the priests, Levites, poor, widows

• Is the N.T church equivalent to the O.T. storehouse?

- ❖ The church is not the temple or Israel, but it is a model for the church
- ❖ Tithing supports the needs and ministries of the church

2017

 Budget	\$893,427.00
 Received	\$862,645.14
 Spent	\$878,576.87

✓ We were **\$15,931.73** in the hole and **\$30,781.86** below budget

✧ **Total giving last year was \$77,770.66 above budget**

- ❖ Many give to a designated item and not to the budget
- ❖ Designated offerings cause the budget of the church to suffer

✧ **Imagine that when you receive your pay check that it is designated only to your house payment, electric bill and food**

❖ We asked you last year to give to over 15 individual causes

➤ **We could do more, give more in a joint effort through the budget**

✧ **Imagine, your giving to the budget would enable a child to go to summer camp for free**

✧ **Imagine, giving more to missions than we have ever given because giving is not limited to the few that give to missions**

- ✓ 2% of budget offering goes to Live2Serve
- ✓ Lottie Moon offering averages \$5,000 - \$6,00, imagine \$10,000

 We will limit the number of specific causes for you to give to this year

➤ **We are asking you to only give to the budget**

✧ **This is our first year to ask you to do this, so please be patient as we start this process and we welcome your questions**

➤ **Remember, we honor God when we give**

■ **We Bless Others When We Give**

 We are called to help people in great need

✚ We are compelled and called to serve others

✪ **Jesus saw the need and was compelled to feed them**

❖ **Because the boy gave his bread and fish, 5,000 people ate until they were full and witnessed a miracle!**

❖ That little boy blessed others!

❖ We see generosity that blesses others throughout the Bible

Acts 4:34-35 (NKJV)

34 Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, 35 and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

❖ **Generosity blesses others!**

❖ Have you ever received a gift that has blessed you? How did you feel?

✚ People know that I enjoy history

✚ Occasionally, someone will give me a book or a piece of history that really makes me feel blessed

❖ Giving to Morris Hill Baptist and God's Work enables you to bless others

✚ We have been able to bless others by helping with utility bills, food, etc.

✚ **VBS** is around the corner and your giving makes VBS possible

✪ **VBS is our largest evangelistic event**

➤ **Your giving blesses others**

■ We are Blessed When We Give

✚ When we give to His work, we will be blessed

✧ **How do you feel when children walk down the aisle and say they trusted Christ as their Savior in VBS**

- ❖ That was because you gave to the budget of Morris Hill Baptist

✧ **Do you think that boy was blessed to see Jesus use his lunch to feed 5,000 men that gathered to Hear Jesus?**

- ❖ Let's go back to **Malachi 3:10**

- ❖ This is the only time God says, "Test Me"

- ❖ Now look at **Malachi 3:10b-12**

- ✚ He will pour out more blessings than we can handle
- ✚ He tells Israel that nations will call them blessed

✧ **Would you ever say, "it's just not worth it to give to God"?**

- ❖ When you give to Morris Hill Baptist, your money goes around the world

- ✚ I feel blessed because Beth and I, now our children, faithfully give to the work of God through His church

- ✚ Sometimes, I hear stories of how God uses the money we have given, but more often, I will only hear those stories in Heaven

- ✓ **Bill Borden was an outstanding young leader and athlete at Yale**
- ✓ **He inherited well over a million dollars when his father died**

- ✓ **He was heir to the famous Borden Dairy Products family.**
- ✓ **In today's currency that would probably be over \$100 million**

- ✓ **He became a Christian as a young man and felt an increasing sense of call as a missionary to Muslims in China**

- ✓ **He wasn't married and lived an unpretentious lifestyle, so he said, "I don't need much money on the mission field."**

✓ He made a will before he left for China

✪ **He gave everything away. He gave it all away!**

✚ \$100,000 went to National Bible Institute

✚ \$100,000 to Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

✚ \$250,000 to the China Inland Mission, with \$100,000 to be invested and the interest used for a retirement fund for missionaries.

✚ He gave more to other Christ-centered causes

✓ **Bill Borden arrived in Cairo, Egypt where he would learn Arabic**

✓ **He died from spinal meningitis a few months later**

✓ **He was 25 years old**

✓ **Most people in this world, would conclude, “What a waste!”**

✓ **Three phrases were found written inside his Bible: “No reserves. No retreats. No regrets.”**

✪ **Bill Borden understood what generosity was all about**

✪ **Bill Borden understood that God owned it all**

Close

Could you be found guilty of being generous?

“Would they find you guilty of putting God first?”

✚ For some here today, the answer is absolutely yes

✚ The answer is no for others

✚ Generous giving begins with the One that gave His life for you

✚ Real living begins with trusting Christ to be your Savior