

Today's Theme

“Generous Living Brings Joy”

Series Title

“Finding Joy In Life” Part 27

March 6, 2022

What God Says About *Generous* People

1. Generous people build great *friendships*.

Phil 4:14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles.

What generosity *does*

- (1) Communicates the *reality* of ones *commitment*.
- (2) Promotes *fellowship* at a *deep* level.

2. Generous people are *rare*.

Phil 4:15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need.

- (1) Even Paul was *unsupported* by *many*.
- (2) Money *means* a great deal in *ministry*.

3. Generous people are *blessed* by God.

Phil 4:17 Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.

- (1) God doesn't *need* our *money*.
- (2) Paul wants us to *learn* how to *give*.

What Generous Giving *Produces*

1. Giving makes our life *better*.

Prov 11:25 A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2. Giving grows our *heart* for Jesus.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

3. G expands our *influence* for God.

Matt 10:42 And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

4. G develops our ability to *manage* riches.

Luke 16:10 “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?”

5. G prepares us to *receive* God's blessing.

Prov 3:9 Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. 2Cor 9:6 2Cor 9:11

6. G allows our work to have *meaning*.

Eph 4:28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

7. G fills our life with *joy*.

1 Chr 29:9 The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

8. G reminds us of God's *authority*.

1 Chr 29:13 Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. 14 “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.