The Joy of Giving

Luke 6:38

3-25-2019

Introduction – Words of wisdom: "Giving is a matter of the heart and not the pocketbook." "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." "God will give to us what will flow through us." "Our life is to be like a river, not a reservoir." "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also." Four simple suggestions when it comes to giving.

I. Reflect on God's gifts to you. place to sleep, there's food on my table shoes on my feet; You gave me Your love, fine family
  1. God has given sufficient food, clothing, and safe shelters. Even more blessings of good health, happy families, and close friends . . . and so much more. Roof up above me; I've a good

II. Remind yourself of His promises regarding generosity.
  1. Deuteronomy 16:17   4. Malachi 3:10
  2. 1 Chronicles 29:9   5. Luke 6:36
  3. Proverbs 11:24-25   6. Acts 20:35

III. Examine your heart.
  1. Is my giving proportionate to my income? Preacher about to take an offering: "And now brethren let us all give in accordance with what we reported on Form 1040."
  2. Am I motivated by guilt . . . or by contagious joy (2 Corinthians 9:7)?
  3. If someone else knew the level of my giving to God's work, would I be a model to follow?
  4. Have I prayed about giving . . . or am I just an impulsive responder?

IV. Trust God to honor consistent generosity.
  1. Release your restraint—when you really believe God is leading you to make a significant contribution—and develop the habit of generosity. *Chuck Swindoll*

V. Questions about biblical stewardship.
  1. Why should I give to God?
  2. Will God really ask me to account for what He has given me on earth?
  3. Where did the concept of tithing originate?
  4. How can I afford to live on 90% of my income when I can't even make it on 100%?
  5. Should I wait until I am out of debt to begin tithing?
  6. Who gives more to God: the rich or the poor?
  7. Is it unbiblical to desire wealth?
  8. How much does the bible have to say about money? *David Jeremiah*