

Series: Disciple

Part 11: Giving to God

Sunday February 21, 2016

1. Gifts Assessment link: <http://www.gifttest.org/results.php>
2. How are we managing the gifts that God has given us?
3. How can we be careful and wise with our time?
 - a. Know good from bad.
 - b. Live in the here and now.
 - c. Take time to take time.
4. Four basic questions around making more time for our spiritual growth:
 1. What activity can I give up?
 2. What activity can I do less?
 3. What activity can I do more?
 4. What new activity might I begin?
5. *O Lord our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. O Lord, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you* (1 Chron. 29:16-18).
6. How are we managing our stuff?
7. *On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income...* (1 Cor. 16:2).
8. *Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver* (2 Cor. 9:7).
9. Skit Guys. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yb6EbzT leI>
10. God's reward for giving: *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work* (2 Cor. 9:8).

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. Tell of a time when you gave of your giftedness or time or stuff or monies and it gave you joy to see what God did with it.
2. Tell of a time when you gave of your giftedness or time or stuff or monies and it did *not* give you joy to see what God did with it?
3. What are the differences between the stories of Q. 1 and Q. 2? What is our responsibility in giving?

INTO THE BIBLE

4. Read 1 Cor. 4:1-2. What is our responsibility according to these verses?
5. Read 1 Pet. 4:10. According to this verse – of what are we stewards? What are we supposed to do with it?
6. Read Deut. 8:17-18. What do you think is the right attitude to have about our possessions?
7. Read Mark 12:41-44. What is Jesus saying about giving by telling this story?

APPLICATION

8. List some things (tangible and intangible) that God has given you, ie. food, clothing, shelter, family, friends, peace. For each entry – think about what it means that God has made you steward over that item.
9. Discuss this statement: "Giving to God is an investment – not an expense!"