

# GENEROUS > GRUDGING

Proverbs 11:24-25; Luke 19:1-9

Proverbs 11:24-25, <sup>24</sup> One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. <sup>25</sup> A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Acts 20:35, In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words **the Lord Jesus** himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

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Luke 19:1-9, <sup>1</sup> Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup> A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup> He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. <sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." <sup>8</sup> But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.

Luke 9:51-56; 19:9

- 1) CARES about the well-being of others. (Luke 19:2-6)
- 2) COMMITS to the well-being of others. (Luke 19:7)

John 5:6, When Jesus saw him (a disabled man) lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

## To open hearts to God:

a) Live to meet the needs of others.

- b) Listen for what their hearts are longing for.
- c) Learn how we can help them find their answers in God.
- d) Lead them into God's ever-present willingness to bless them.

John 13:34, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

Luke 22:61

## 3) CELEBRATES the well-being of others. (Luke 19:8-9)

Leviticus 5:16

Numbers 5:6-7,  $^6$  "Say to the Israelites: 'Any man or woman who wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the LORD is guilty  $^7$  and must confess the sin they have committed. They must make full restitution for the wrong they have done, add a fifth of the value to it...

Romans 13:8, Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another . . .

#### Questions:

- 1) What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
- 2) What will you do because of it?
- 3) How can we pray for you?

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