

Scripture Reading: Psalm 112

Sermon Title: The blessedness of generous living

God has established **every day & eternal benefits** for generous living.

*The **foundation** of generous living:*

Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands.

v1

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.

v5

Generous living is **part of our obedience** to God not an addition to it.

Growing in generosity is part of **ongoing spiritual maturity**.

Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands

v1

God's graciousness is the foundation of **all generosity**.

The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

Psalm 145:9

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Matthew 5:44-45

Take God out of the boxes you put Him in, but keep Him in **the boxes He puts Himself in**.

*The **benefits** of generous living:*

*General **good***

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.

v5

*Generational **impact***

Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. ³ Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

v2-3

Generational wealth **without generational impact** is a waste.

The wicked will see and be vexed, they will gnash their teeth and waste away; the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.
v10

Generational wealth *without God* is a waste.

Healthy relationships

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.
v5

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

Spiritual vitality

Increasing freedom from anxiety

Surely the righteous **will never be shaken**; they will be remembered forever. ⁷ **They will have no fear** of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord. ⁸ Their hearts are secure, **they will have no fear**; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.
v6-8

Increasing freedom from idolatry

Good will come to those who are generous and lend **freely**....They have **freely** scattered their gifts to the poor
v5&9

Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰ for Demas, **because he loved this world, has deserted me** and has gone to Thessalonica.
2 Timothy 4:9-10

Generous living will encroach on our *desires for comfort* & crowd out our *issues of control*.

A good name

They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever; **their horn will be lifted high in honor**.
v9

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.
Proverbs 22:1

Eternal confidence & rewards

their righteousness endures forever.
v3, 6, & 9

The wicked will see and be vexed, they will gnash their teeth and waste away; the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

v10

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But **store up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21

When God is our [greatest treasure](#), we will be satisfied with earthly treasure.

The [cost](#) of generous living:

Good will come to those who are generous and lend **freely**....They have **freely** scattered their gifts to the poor

v5&9

Generous living [sacrifices](#).

For God **so loved the world that he gave** his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

The [choice](#) of generous living:

Grow in generous living by ordering [your life](#).

In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. ⁵And they exceeded our expectations: **They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.**

2 Corinthians 8:2-5

Grow in generous living by ordering [your finances](#).

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! **You give a tenth** of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. **You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.**

Matthew 23:23