# **GIVING IS GOOD**

Making Change: Part 3
January 21, 2018
Pastor Gordon

LESS IS MORE ~ STRESS IS BAD ~ GIVING IS GOOD ~ TOMORROW MATTERS

"Jesus said, "More blessings come from giving than from receiving."" (Acts 20:35, CEV)

"Giving gifts is more satisfying than receiving them." (Acts 20:35, GW)

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." (2 Corinthians 9:11, NIV)

### Why We Are Reluctant to Give?

- 1. STRUGGLING FINANCIALLY
- 2. **SKEPTICAL ATTITUDE**
- 3. **SCARCITY MINDSET**

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped."

(Proverbs 11:24–25, The Message)

## **HOW DO I GROW IN GENEROSITY?**

# 1. TRUST GOD WITH THE TITHE.

""One tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD and must be set apart to him as holy." (Leviticus 27:30, NLT)

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." (Malachi 3:10, NIV)

#### 2. PLAN MY GENEROSITY.

"For I know what I have planned for you," says the LORD. 'I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11, NET)

"But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity." (Isaiah 32:8, NLT)

#### 3. **BEGIN MY GENEROSITY NOW.**

"If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done." (Ecclesiastes 11:4, TLB)

"And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ." (Philemon 6, NLT)

Action: <u>FPU</u> 90 DAY TITHE CHALLENGE