



**“The Nine Habits of a Giving Heart”**  
**Matthew 6:19-21**  
**Pastor’s Choice Series**

**Introduction:** Matthew 6:19-21 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Our need is to have our confidence restored, not in the market but in the Master, not in the earthly value of hoarding but in the eternal value of giving.

We will never get victory in the arena of finances until we get victory in the arena of giving and we will never get victory in the arena of giving until we get victory in the arena of the heart.

“We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.” (Rev. E. Duane Hulse)

Deut. 8:18 “...you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth...”  
cf. Lk. 12:48; Ps. 50:10

**Habit #1 - Give worshipfully**

- John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He GAVE His only begotten Son...”
- 2 Cor. 9:15 “Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.”
- Matt. 10:8 “...freely you received, freely give.”
- Ex. 23:19 “You shall bring the choice first fruits of your soil into the house of the Lord your God.”
- Prov. 3:9-10 “Honor the Lord from your wealth, and from the first of all your produce; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.”  
“You may give without loving but you can’t love without giving.”

**Habit #2 - Give willingly**

- Ex. 25:2 “Tell the sons of Israel to raise a contribution for Me; from every man whose heart moves him you shall raise My contribution.”
- 2 Cor. 9:7 “Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.”  
Song: “All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give...”

**Habit #3 - Give generously**

- James 1:5 “God...gives generously...and without reproach...”
- 2 Cor. 8:1-2 “Now, brethren, we wish to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality.”

- Lev. 27:30 “Thus all the tithe of the land, of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s; it is holy to the Lord.”

**If people living under law were to give a minimum of 10% what would people under grace want to give?**

- 2 Cor. 9:6 “Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully.”
- Luke 6:38 “Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, they will pour into your lap. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”
- 1 Tim. 6:17-19 “Instruct those who are rich in this present world...to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.”

#### **Habit #4 - Give cheerfully**

- 2 Cor. 9:7 “Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.”

#### **Habit #5 - Give sacrificially**

- 2 Sam. 24:24 “I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God which cost me nothing.”
- 2 Cor. 8:1-5 “Now, brethren, we wish to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality. For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability they gave of their own accord, begging us with much entreaty for the favor of participation in the support of the saints, and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.”

#### **Habit #6 - Give regularly**

- 1 Cor. 16:1-2 “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also. On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.”

#### **Habit #7 - Give wisely**

- 1 Cor. 16:1 “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.”

#### **Habit #8 - Give carefully**

- 1 Cor. 16:2-3 “On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come. And when I arrive, whomever you may approve, I shall send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem...”

#### **Habit #9 - Give immediately**

- Luke 16:10-11 “He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. If therefore you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous mammon, who will entrust the true riches to you?” cf. “The Parable of the Talents” (Matthew 25:14-30)
- Mal. 3:8-12 “Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you! Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows. Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field cast its grapes,” says the Lord of hosts. All the nations will call you blessed, for you shall be a delightful land,” says the Lord of hosts.

- Luke 16:15 “You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.”
- Ps. 37:25 “I have been young, and now I am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, or his descendants begging bread.”
- Haggai 1:5-11 Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts, “Consider your ways! You have sown much, but harvest little; you eat, but there is not enough to be satisfied; you drink, but there is not enough to become drunk; you put on clothing, but no one is warm enough; and he who earns, earns wages to put into a purse with holes.” Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Consider your ways! Go up to the mountains, bring wood and rebuild the temple, that I may be pleased with it and be glorified,” says the Lord. “You look for much, but behold, it comes to little; when you bring it home, I blow it away. Why?” declares the Lord of hosts, “Because of My house which lies desolate, while each of you runs to his own house. Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. And I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.”

Concluding Challenge:

- 1 Tim. 6:17-19 “Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.”
- Phil. 4:17 “Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.”

**“Do your givin’ while you’re livin’. Then you’re knowin’ where it’s goin’.”**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What are the primary reasons we give financially?
2. Share a testimony of how God has blessed you in a surprising way?
3. If the way we are presently giving were the only form of worship by which our love for God was measured, what would our present giving patterns say of our love for Him?
4. How are you doing as it relates to the following habits of the giving heart:

		Winning	Struggling	Losing
Habit #1	Give worshipfully	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #2	Give willingly	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #3	Give generously	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #4	Give cheerfully	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #5	Give sacrificially	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #6	Give regularly	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #7	Give wisely	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #8	Give carefully	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1
Habit #9	Give immediately	10 9 8	7 6 5 4	3 2 1