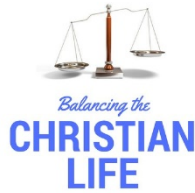


January 2021

Church Life

- If you are a guest with us today, we want to **WELCOME** you! If you haven't done so already, we invite you to stop by our Guest Reception Center in the lobby at the scooter table following the service. Someone will greet you, answer any questions you may have, and give you a gift as a thank-you for worshipping with us today!
- Ladies, **Grace Wednesday Morning Study** is starting a new study on the book of James! This study begins on January 6th at 9:00 am in the sanctuary. No sign-up is necessary. Hope to see you there!
- Want to know what is going on at Grace? Weekly, we email out the E-news. The E-news is a sermon summary written by one of our amazing attenders. Please fill out your connection card if you would like to receive this!
- We are **downsizing our library** space to make way for another office and production studio. Any of the **non-fiction books are free** and yours to own. During January, shop for a book(s) in the library located behind the sound booth. Do not take any fiction books - we're still lending those out!
- In honor of **Sanctity of Life Sunday**, which is January 17, we will be **collecting donations** for Positive Options. As part of Lakeshore Pregnancy Center, Positive Options provides a safe place for women facing an unplanned pregnancy to access medical resources such as free pregnancy testing and ultrasounds. Please **take a baby bottle** on your way out today, and bring it back by Sunday, January 24, with your donation.



January 17, 2021

Tithe: one tenth of annual produce or earnings, formerly taken as a tax for the support of the Church and clergy.

How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

1. Honor an _____ Principle.

Numbers 18:20–21, The Lord said to Aaron, “You will have no inheritance in their land, nor will you have any share among them; I am your share and your inheritance among the Israelites.

“I give to the Levites all the tithes in Israel as their inheritance in return for the work they do while serving at the tent of meeting.

Matthew 23:23, “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.

1 Corinthians 9:13–14, ¹³ Don’t you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? ¹⁴ In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.

How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

2. Acknowledge God as _____.

Psalms 24:1, The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it.

How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

3. Use generosity as your _____ to _____!

Luke 12:15, “Beware, and be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

Hebrews 13:5, ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have,

Matthew 6:21, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

4. Stop _____ spending!

2 Corinthians 9:6–8, Generosity Encouraged, ⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Life Application:

Take this week to review how you are investing your money. Would anyone looking at your finances say, “WOW this is a generous person! WOW this person is clearly committed to God’s mission in our world!”

If the answer is, “YES!” Celebrate your devotion to God and ask him how you could help others become generous as well.

If the answer is, “No.” Don’t beat yourself up. Make a plan for how you can start reorganizing your finances to become a generous person.



January 17th 2021

Lifestyle of Generosity

1. Why we should live a Lifestyle of Generosity and what are some ways to do this?
2. What do you think about the “Jars” method? How could we all use this principle in our own life?

Key Point: How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

1. Honor an Old Testament Principle.

READ: Numbers 18:20–21 & Matthew 23:23

3. Discuss these verses and what this tells us about tithing. Do you consider it an essential of life? Do you see it in the same way you see love and mercy?

4. Why is tithing so hard to do or even to talk about?

READ: 1 Corinthians 9:13–14

5. What does this tell us about our responsibility to our Pastors?

6. Do you see this as a core teaching in order to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus?

Key Point: How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

2. Acknowledge God as owner.

READ: Psalm 24:1

7. When we release a tenth of our income and give it over to the ministry and mission of Jesus in the world, we acknowledge God who owns everything. Our income is His because our lives are His.

8. So, what should our focus be, our issues with the tithe, or living generously as a lifestyle? What is the difference?

Key Point: How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

3. Use generosity as your antidote to covetousness!

READ: Luke 12:15, Colossians 3:5, Hebrews 13:5 & Matthew 6:21

9. What does this teach us about the way we look at our stuff and the stuff we wish we had?

10. Every time you tithe, every time you give, you must deal with the desire for what you might have bought for yourself. To give is to choose NOT to buy. Discuss this.

A Quote from Pastor Adam...

KEY POINT: How to cultivate a “Lifestyle of Generosity!”

4. Stop ever-expanding spending!

Let's be honest, there is an almost infallible human rule: spending expands to fill the income. Spending begets spending. If you have less at your disposal, you spend less. I spend absolutely no time thinking about cruises around the world, stocks, or IPO's. However, if I made two or three hundred thousand dollars a year, soon things like that would not seem strange to me, because I could afford it. So, if spending almost inevitably expands to fill the income, the question should be, “How can we restrain ourselves from accumulating more and more stuff, “How do we keep from placing the same value on stuff as the world does, “How do we keep an eternal perspective on our money?”

READ: 2 Corinthians 9:6–8

11. Discuss this passage. What can learn from these verses?

12. Pastor Adam often says that Grace is not after your money. And that our goal as a church is to help your heart become 100% invested in God and giving is just 1 part of that. Yet this is very hard for some Christians to hear, let alone discuss with a group of people. Why?

13. This passage ends with a great promise, what is it?

Key Point: God will supply what we need. And God will provide abundantly when it comes to us doing good for others!

Life Application:

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