

ADVENT CONSPIRACY: *Give More*

Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Dr. Paul White, Senior Pastor

Recap from last week:

- Mary was fully _____ to God's plan for her life.
- Faith looks like stewardship of our _____.
- Practically, giving generously requires _____ our spending to reflect our faith.

Wise men are seen by their _____ God's gift of Messiah.

- **Wisdom leads us to _____ God.**
Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem... (v. 1)
- **Wisdom leads us to _____ God.**
Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. (v. 2)

- **Wisdom leads us to _____ to God.**
When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (vv. 10-11)

“You can always give without loving, but you can never love without giving.” –Amy Carmichael

Faith looks like _____ and _____ giving.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. (Romans 12:1)

- _____ **has always involved giving back to God.**
Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Hebrews 13:15-16)
- **Our giving reveals the substance of our _____.**
By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through

his faith, though he died, he still speaks. (Hebrews 13:15-16)

- **Giving is God's plan to keep our heart set on _____ Him.**

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

- **Giving proportionally is God's plan to _____ our trust in Him.**

"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." (Malachi 3:10)

- **Giving intentionally turns _____ into actions.**

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each

one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

Legend:

Mary was fully surrendered to God's plan for her life.

Faith looks like stewardship of our whole life.

Practically, giving generously requires realigning our spending to reflect our faith.

Wise men are still seen by their response to God's gift of Messiah.

Wisdom leads us to seek God.

Wisdom leads us to worship God.

Wisdom leads us to give our best to God.

Faith looks like intentional and proportional giving.

Worship has always involved giving back to God.

Our giving reveals the substance of our faith.

Giving is God's plan to keep our heart set on pleasing Him.

Giving proportionally is God's plan to grow our trust in Him.

Giving intentionally turns good intentions into actions.

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