

Church Just Wants Your Money
It's All About the Heart
October 5/6, 2019

Luke 6:37-38 Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

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

Deuteronomy 15:7-8 If there is among you a poor man of your brethren, within any of the gates in your land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother, but you shall open your hand wide to him and willingly lend him sufficient for his need, whatever he needs.

4 Things We Must Do:

1. Deal with a selfish heart.

Deuteronomy 15:9 Be careful not to harbor this **wicked thought**: “The seventh year, the year for canceling debts, is near,” so that you do not show ill will toward the needy among your fellow Israelites and give them nothing. They may then appeal to the Lord against you, and you will be found guilty of sin.

2. Deal with a grieving heart.

Deuteronomy 15:10 Give generously to them and do so without a **grudging heart**; then because of this the Lord your **God will bless you** in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.

3. Develop a generous heart.

Deuteronomy 15:14 Supply them liberally from your flock, your threshing floor and your winepress. Give to them as the Lord your God has blessed you.

1 Timothy 6:17-18 Command those who are **rich** in this present world **not to be arrogant** nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

4. Develop a grateful heart.

Deuteronomy 15:15 Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you. That is why I give you this command today.

John 12:1-7 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his

feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial.

4 Steps on Your Spiritual Journey:

- ✓ Step 1: Know God.
- ✓ Step 2: Find Freedom.
- ✓ Step 3: Discover Your Purpose.
- ✓ Step 4: Make a Difference.

3 Intentional Ways We Make a Difference:

- ✓ At The Movies.
- ✓ Random Acts of Kindness.
- ✓ Legacy Offering. (December 7th/8th)

Isaiah 58:5-7 Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Isaiah 58:8-12 Then your **light will break forth like the dawn (1)**, and your **healing will quickly appear (2)**; then **your righteousness will go before you (3)**, and the **glory of the Lord will be your rear guard (4)**. Then **you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I (5)**. “If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you **spend yourselves** in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, **then your light will rise in the darkness (6)**, and your night will become like the noonday. **The Lord will guide you always (7); he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land (8)** and will **strengthen your frame (9)**. **You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail (10)**. **Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations (11); you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings (12)**.

Walk Away: Lord, develop in me a generous and grateful heart.