



FOR CLARKSVILLE: GIVE

For far too long, Christians have used their power to make a point and used their dollars to demand their way, and because of this, we have lost influence in our communities. Jesus never used his power that way. Instead, he showed us a better way to live. He had all the power and every legitimate reason to demand His way, but this is not the example He set. Instead, He leveraged His power to love and serve others and told us to follow His example. His example was the example of God the Father. His example was to Give (**John 3:16**).

Big Idea: **If God has your heart, then you won't hold back from Him.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What would you do if you received an extra paycheck this month?
2. Would you describe yourself as a “saver” or “spender”? Why?
3. Why do you think money/possessions play such a significant role in the Bible?
4. How do you feel when it comes to money and the Church? How do you feel about money and Christian living? Why do you feel that way?
5. Read **Malachi 3:6-8**. How had Malachi's peers robbed God? With what results?
6. How does the Lord challenge the people to put him to the test (Read **Malachi 3:10-12**)?
7. What was futile about their worshipping God with a “what's-in-this-for-me” attitude?
8. Read **Matthew 6:24**. As a way to consider the principle Matthew introduces, on a scale of 1-10, how would you rate yourself when it comes to the following and why? Give =? Save =? Live =?
9. Read **1 Corinthians 16:2** and **2 Corinthians 8:12**. What do these verses tell us about generosity? What connection do they make between our hearts and our possessions?
10. Give some words that describe what you want your relationship with God to look like. How can putting God and others first in the area of your money help you take a step toward that kind of relationship?
11. What is one step you can take this week not to hold back from God?