



Sermon Series: Give It All You've Got part 1

Sermon Title: Why does God care about my giving?

Date: February 13, 2022

Why do we give to God? Because the scriptures show us that:

Big Idea: Giving reveals the attitude of your faith

In **Genesis 4:3-5** both Cain and Able appear to be motivated from the heart to bring some type of offering to God. Cain's giving moment included being careless and grabbing a little bit of the fruit of the ground. His younger brother Abel honors God greatly and brings an offering from the flock. It's the difference between planning to give from the start or bringing leftovers.

Attitude of Appreciation

We see the attitude of appreciation after Abram rescues his kidnapped Nephew Lot with a great victory over the forces of Chedorlaomer King of Elam. Genesis 14:18-20 tells us Melchizedek king of Salem (He was priest of God Most High) blessed Abram and Abram's immediate reaction is to respond with appreciation by giving 10% of everything he's just won in battle. Abram knows his victory came by the hand of God, not only by the weapons he carried.

Attitude of Obedience

As followers of Jesus we embrace the TRUTH that during the period of the Law, God COMMANDED his people to Give. Giving was part of worship for the God's people from the time of Moses to Jesus on to the present day (**Leviticus 27:30**).

Attitude of Complete Trust – In GOD ALMIGHTY!

If you choose to give, that act of worship is an act of trusting God to provide for your future. We see this in Jesus' praise of a bankrupt widow. (**Mark 12:41-44**)

What is beautiful about this moment – is Jesus knows the hearts of all the people making contributions. There are those giving large amounts out of their excess. Then there's the widow who even though she only puts in the equivalent of about \$4.00 – its all she has left. 100% of her net worth.

Are you trusting God for your tomorrow, or do you think you can handle it on your own?

Attitude of Joy

Why happiness? She was living out what Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians in his second letter:

Here is something to remember. The one who plants only a little will gather only a little. And the one who plants a lot will gather a lot. You should each give what you have decided in your heart to give. You shouldn't give if you don't want to. You shouldn't give because you are forced to. God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

With this truth, we are brought right back to the time of Cain and Abel. God does not want us to give JUST BECAUSE or by BEING FORCED. No, God want's us to have a Heart Like Abel – someone who brings the very best to God, because you have an instinctive desire and a heart trusting God for the Future.

Attitude of God!

1. The one who gave away all of creation to you and me to care for and enjoy. (Genesis 1:28)

2. The one who made the complete sacrifice and gave His son to die; so you and I could live forever with Him. (1 John 5:11-12)

3. The one who continues to out pour his Spiritual gifting to all who believe and have accepted Jesus Christ a Lord of their Life.

GIVING reveals the attitude of your FAITH

Giving proclaims "I believe all I have comes from God!"

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Why do churches frequently shy away from preaching about giving?**
- **Is it acceptable to give with the motivation of receiving blessings? Explain**
- **Do you believe that Christians today are commanded to give a set percentate of income back to God? Why or why not?**
- **Do you believe that God will bless you if you give? Explain**
- **What advice would you give to someone who does not have an attitude of joy about giving?**
- **How would you counsel a christian who says he or she does not have enough money to give?**