

## Sermon Notes: Philippians 4:14-20

*“Generosity is one of the strongest predictors of happiness.”* Arthur Brooks, Harvard Professor

*“If a preacher talks about money, people often assume he’s after their money. But Jesus talked about money to get at something much deeper—the heart.”* -Tim Keller

**Big Idea: Generosity is the safest and happiest way to live.**

**Point 1: Generosity is one of the clearest pieces of evidence that the Gospel has taken root in your heart.**

*“There is no such thing as a Christian scrooge. We may know some scrooges who claim to be Christians, but I don’t think you can claim to really know Christ and be a stingy person.”* -Kent Hughes

*“The more we understand what we have received in Christ, the more open-handed we become.”* -Alistair Begg

**Point 2: What you do with your money reveals your priorities and trains your heart.**

*“Consumerism is perhaps the most powerful cultural force shaping the church today.”* - Os Guinness

*“Your money flows most effortlessly toward your greatest love.”* -Tim Keller

What are you training your heart to love through the use of your finances?

**Point 3: Generosity is safe.**

*“No one will ever be a loser, in the long run, by deeds of self-denying charity.”* -JC Ryle

**Give immediately** (don’t wait).

**Give repeatedly** (create a habit of giving).

**Give sacrificially** (give in a way that costs you).

*“I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditures on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our giving excludes them.”* -CS Lewis