

RHYTHMS



GLEN BARNES

GROWING IN THE RHYTHM OF GENEROSITY

APRIL 28TH, 2024

Why does Jesus talk about money so much? Money is related to our _____.

The goal of Jesus talking about money so often is not for Him to get our money, the goal of Jesus talking about money is to get our hearts.

JESUS' CORE TEACHINGS ON MONEY AND POSSESSIONS:

1. How we handle money reveals what is most important to us.

“ ²¹ *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*” ~ MATTHEW 6:21 (NIV)

“ ³³ *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*” ~ MATTHEW 6:33 (NIV)

“ ¹⁷ *Jesus said, 'give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.'*” ~ MARK 12:17a (NLT)

2. Money has a strong power to pull us away from what matters the most.

“ ²³ *Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.*” ~ MATTHEW 19:23 (NIV)

“ ²² *The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.*” ~ MATTHEW 13:22 (NIV)

“ ¹⁰ *For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*” ~ 1 TIMOTHY 6:10 (NIV)

3. Be generous with what you have. Jesus holds up generous people as examples (*Widow, Mary, Zacheus*)

HOW DO YOU RATE YOUR GENEROSITY?

Less Generous

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Irrationally Generous

“ *The early church was strikingly different from the culture around it in this way - the pagan society was stingy with its money and promiscuous with its body. A pagan gave nobody their money and practically gave everybody their body. And the Christians came along and gave practically nobody their body and they gave practically everybody their money.*”

TIM KELLAR

HOW TO GROW IN THE RHYTHM OF GENEROSITY

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

1. Generous people give _____.

“² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.” ~ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:2 (NIV)

“⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing.” ~ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:4 (NIV)

How did they become willing givers?

“⁵ They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.” ~ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:5 (NIV)

2. Generous people give _____.

“¹¹ Give in proportion to what you have.” ~ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:11b (NLT)

Generous people plan their giving.

“⁸ But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity.” ~ ISAIAH 32:8 (NLT)

Generous people prioritize their giving.

“³⁰ A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.”
~ LEVITICUS 27:30 (NIV)

“³⁰ ‘Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,’ says the Lord Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.’”
~ MALACHI 3:10 (NIV)

3. Generous people give _____.

“²⁴ I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” ~ 2 SAMUEL 24:24 (NIV)

DISCUSSION Questions:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS available on the APP |    

- 1 - When you hear the sermon is going to be about money what is your first thought?
- 2 - Who taught you about money when you were growing up (intentionally or not)? How would you summarize the view of money you were taught?
- 3 - It has been estimated that 16 of 39 of Jesus' parables and 1 in 10 verses in Matthew, Mark and Luke deal with money or possessions. Does this seem surprising? Why do you believe money is such a big topic for Jesus?
- 4 - What is one of your favorite teachings of Jesus on money? What is one of His most challenging teachings to you?
- 5 - Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15. How would you summarize Paul's message to the Corinthians?
- 6 - Pastor Glen summarized from this passage by saying that generous people give willingly, proportionally and sacrificially. Which of these is easiest for you? Which is most difficult?
- 7 - What could you do to progress in your discipleship of generosity?

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