

Kingdom ECONOMICS\$



“Grace Giving” | Elder Mike Tam | December 1, 2024

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ROADMAP FOR TODAY'S MESSAGE

- 1) TITHING
- 2) GENEROSITY
- 3) GROWING AS IMAGEBEARERS OF A GENEROUS GOD



TITHING



Leviticus 27:30-32 (NIV)

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. ³¹ Whoever would redeem any of their tithe must add a fifth of the value to it. ³² Every tithe of the herd and flock- every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd’s rod- will be holy to the LORD.”



Deuteronomy 26:12 (NIV)

¹² When you have finished setting aside a tenth of all your produce in the third year, the year of the tithe, you shall give it to the Levite, the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that they may eat in your towns and be satisfied.



IS THERE AN AMOUNT WE SHOULD GIVE TO GOD AND HIS WORK?

A. 10%



IS THERE AN AMOUNT WE SHOULD GIVE TO GOD AND HIS WORK?

- A. 10%
- B. 20-30%



**GOD CARES ABOUT THE WIDOWS, ORPHANS,
FOREIGNERS, AND THOSE WHO DO
HIS WORK AS THEIR VOCATION**



GENEROSITY



GOD GUSHES OVER US WITH GENEROSITY

1 John 3:1 (NIV)

¹ See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.



2 Corinthians 8:1-4 (NIV)

¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.



2 Corinthians 8:5-7 (NIV)

⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷ But since you excel in everything— in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you— see that you also excel in this grace of giving.



2 Corinthians 8:8-9 (NIV)

⁸ I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.



2 Corinthians 8:10-12 (NIV)

¹⁰ And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.



2 Corinthians 9:1-2 (NIV)

¹ There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the Lord's people. ² For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action.



2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NIV)

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.



2 Corinthians 9:9 (NIV)

⁹ As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever.”



2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.



2 Corinthians 9:12-13 (NIV)

¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.



2 Corinthians 9:14-15 (NIV)

¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!”



IS THERE AN AMOUNT WE GET TO GIVE TO GOD AND HIS WORK?

- A. 10%
- B. 20-30%
- C. GENEROUSLY



5 IMPACTS of GROWING IN GENEROSITY

- dying to self -> growing as one who loves
- trusting God more -> a deeper knowing of God
- joining God more in His purposes -> growing ministry
- blessing others with God -> sharing joy with God
- dispels the ownership illusion-> a stewardship mindset



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GROWTH AS AN IMAGEBEARER THAT BRINGS GOD GLORY



GROWING AS IMAGEBEARERS OF A GENEROUS GOD



GOD GUSHES OVER US WITH GENEROSITY

Ephesians 1:3 (NIV)

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.



WHAT KEEPS US FROM CHEERFULLY GIVING AS GOD'S IMAGEBEARERS?

- 1) FEAR instead of FAITH
- 2) SELF ABSORPTION instead of LOVE
- 3) ORPHAN SPIRIT instead of OUR IDENTITY AS A CHILD OF GOD
- 4) "I DESERVE THIS" instead of GRATITUDE
- 5) I'm god instead of GOD IS GOD



Matthew 25:14-15, 25 (ESV)

¹⁴ “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.”

²⁵ “... so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.”



Matthew 25:34-36 (ESV)

³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’”



EXERCISING WISDOM

- SOUNDS LIKE WISDOM, BUT IS REALLY DRIVEN BY FEAR
- SOUNDS LIKE FOOLISHNESS, BUT IS REALLY WISE
- IF IT LEADS US AWAY FROM LOVING OR TRUSTING GOD, THEN IT IS ACTUALLY FOOLISHNESS
- TRUE WISDOM GOES WITH LOVE, FAITH, AND WALKING WITH HOLY SPIRIT



3 DANGERS from FLESH DRIVEN “GENEROSITY”

1) THE PROSPERITY GOSPEL MINDSET

2) PRIDE & SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS

3) DOING “HUMANITARIAN” WORK OPPOSED TO GOD



Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)

⁹ Honor the LORD with your wealth,
with the firstfruits of all your crops;

¹⁰ then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.



THE DANGER: THE PROSPERITY GOSPEL

- LOOKS LIKE GENEROSITY, BUT IS SELF SERVING
- TRANSACTIONAL, NOT RELATIONAL



1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV)

¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.



THE DANGER: PRIDE & SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- Condescending: “I’m better than you.”
- Trying to relate to God through WORKS instead of GRACE
- Trying to get worth through man’s approval

MATTHEW 6



THE DANGER: HUMANITARIAN WORK NOT OF GOD

- HELPFUL IN MAN'S EYES, BUT ACTUALLY AGAINST GOD'S PURPOSES
- END RESULT IS MAN'S GLORY
- DOESN'T BRING GLORY TO GOD
- DOESN'T BRING FORTH A DEEPER KNOWING OF GOD
- DOESN'T HELP PEOPLE TO KNOW THEIR DEEPER NEED OF JESUS

MATTHEW 5, 10



Romans 14:12 (NIV)

¹² So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.



4 WAYS to GROW as an IMAGEBEARER of a GENEROUS GOD

- REPENT
- YIELD TO GOD'S SPIRIT
- GROW IN HAVING THE MINDSET OF A STEWARD:
“It's Your money, God, not mine. What do you want to do with it?”
- GROW IN BEING SELF AWARE BY HAVING AUTHENTIC,
REDEMPTIVE RELATIONSHIPS



