

Sermon Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

What was most challenging, helpful, or troubling in the sermon?

Digging Deeper:

1. Think through the false gospel statements on giving, what heart posture most describes you when it comes to giving financially?
 - a. Legalism: "I give so God owes me love and favor, when life goes wrong, he should fix it."
 - b. Moralism: "I give so I can keep guilt at arm's length and keep God satisfied. If this happens, I can keep living my life as normal."
 - c. Licentiousness: "I give whatever feels comfortable. I prefer to give in other ways other than money."
2. See 2 Cor 8:9 and Acts 4:33. What is the relationship between grace felt and generosity towards people?
3. Reflect: "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 expenditure 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. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditures exclude them."
 - a. Finish this sentence. "My current giving feels _____" (what emotions and struggles does the gospel need to breath life into?)
4. "I just read Acts 4 and I'm disturbed. Where was God's grace towards Ananias and Saphira?" How would you respond?

Empowered by the Holy Spirit:

Pray: If God were to ask you what would you be most excited about in how He will use your financial giving? What would you say? (Be specific).

- a. Pray for great grace to free you from fear/anxiety/greed or any logic that makes you hesitate to grow in generosity.