

The Joy of Living a Generous Life - Pt1
Matthew 6:19-24 (ESV)
Pastor Harlyn - 4.23.2023

We DON'T DO THINGS so that WE MIGHT BE LOVED BY GOD... WE DO THINGS BECAUSE WE ARE LOVED BY GOD

Matthew 6:19-24 (Jesus) “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Matthew 23:23 (Jesus) “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.”

Acts 2:45 “And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.”

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

1 Timothy 6:17-19 “As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.”

Question: What do our _____ teach us about ourselves?

Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:22-23 “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!”

John 3:16 “For God so loved that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have eternal life.”

Matthew 6:24 (Jesus) “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Homework:

Generosity Prayer: “Holy Father, there is nothing we have that You have not given us. All we have and all we are belong to You, bought with the blood of Jesus. To spend everything on ourselves and to give without sacrifice is the way of the world that You cannot bless. But generosity is the way of those who call Christ their Lord, who love Him with free hearts and serve Him with renewed minds, who withstand the delusion of riches that chokes the Word, whose hearts are in Your kingdom and not in the systems of the world. We are determined by God’s grace, to increase in generosity for Your glory and honor. We are determined to be trustworthy with such a little thing as money that You may trust us with true riches. Above all, we are determined to be generous because You, Father, are generous. It is the delight of Your daughters and sons to share Your traits and to show what You are like to all the world.”

LOOK IN:

1. Do you believe God wants you to live a generous lifestyle?
2. Do you have financial margin?
3. Have you established a percentage of what you’ll give to God (tithe/offering). Give to others?
4. How will you move forward?
5. Do you have someone to be accountable to?