

How God Can Use Generosity In Your Life

7 Steps
of biblical
stewardship



God is the Giver of every good and perfect gift

Everything that we have and everything that we are is the direct result of the goodness of God. The blessings we enjoy are not given based on our merit, but on the outpouring of a generous God, who is molding us into His image.

The great power of giving, for givers, is the vital role generosity plays in transforming us into the image of a generous God—bringing us closer to our God-given purpose.

The seven principles you will find on the following pages are truths about stewardship and using the gifts from a loving God in order to make us more like Him, and make an impact in His name.

This devotional will lead you on a proactive journey through Scripture to help draw you closer to your purpose and illuminate the ways you can mimic the generosity of Jesus in *your* life.

We invite you to read, pray, share, and have a conversation about these important principles

Get started >

Principle (1)

God Owns It All

Psalm 24:1

As Founder and Creator of the heavens and the earth and all that is in them, God holds the rights to all of it. From a single grain of sand on the shore, to the biggest star in the universe: God owns it all. That includes even us—our bodies, our minds, and our lives. Not only does God own us because He created us, but God also bought us with a price—the life of His Son, Jesus Christ. We are doubly purchased.

Everything we have is on loan from God—including us. We are renters, not owners. But when renters start acting and thinking like owners—that's when life becomes complicated. We can start to hold on to things as if we owned them, not understanding they all belong to God.

questions

Whose money do we use to pay our bills, buy gifts, and give to charity? How would it impact our lives if we truly acted like renters and not owners?

prayer

Father, You are the Creator of everything. You own it all. Help us to see everything in this world as yours and trust You to take care of us. Amen.

Principle (2)

Learning to be Faithful

Luke 16:10-11

We must be faithful in small things, to earn God's trust and then be entrusted in larger things. God is training us with what we have *now* so that He can give us more *later*. But if we squander what God gives us today, why would we expect Him to give us more tomorrow? If you give a child \$10, and he wastes it within the hour, you wouldn't want to give that same child \$100! God won't multiply what we fail to maximize. Learning to be faithful with our gifts includes saving, spending wisely, and considering our legacy for the future, including passing the torch to the next generation

questions

How are you being faithful with the gifts you already have? If God gave you more, would it be a bad investment on His part?

prayer

Father, thank You for what I have. Teach me to use my time, talent and treasure faithfully. Make me into a good steward. Amen.

Principle (3)

Finding Balance

Matthew 6:19-24

Being a good steward requires balancing the needs of today with the needs of tomorrow. How much is enough for today's needs, and how much do we invest for the future, and for the next generation? Taking an honest look at our finances, are we spending enough to provide for our needs? Also, are we investing in our future by saving consistently and often? It is easy to fall on the extremes, by *never* spending any money and hoarding everything or spending all we have and saving *nothing*. The secret is living in the in-between, and being content to spend what you need and save what you can.

questions

Where could you save more? Are there any needs you are neglecting because you don't want to spend the money? Are you more of a saver or a spender?

prayer

Father, teach me contentment. Show me where to spend money and where to save. Help me to live in the right balance. Amen.

Principle (4)

Realizing Accountability

Hebrews 4:13

At the end of the year, a good accountant reconciles the books. She goes through the books, verifying revenue and expenses. She doubles checks receipts, paystubs, invoices, and funds. A good accountant keeps a company *accountable*.

God is a good accountant, and He wants to keep us accountable. He knows what we take in, what we put out, what we spend, and what we save. Nothing is hidden from Him. The reason God holds us accountable as stewards is to help us. Knowing that God is looking over our shoulder shouldn't be a cause for fear, but rather an opportunity for growth. When we realize that we are accountable for the things God has given us, we can better take care and manage all of it.

questions

If God went over your books right now, would you be audited or rewarded? How can you better manage your resources?

prayer

Father, thank You for responsibility of managing your resources. Help me to stay accountable. Amen.

Principle (5)

Understanding Generosity

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

Why does God provide more than our immediate daily needs? For generosity. We're blessed to be a blessing. We receive so that we can give.

It's like fresh water. If water flows into a pond, but never flows out of the pond, that standing water becomes stagnant quickly. For that pond to be fresh, you need water going in *and* water going out. Only then will you have fresh, clean, and vibrant water that quenches thirst.

The only way God can give us more is if we release what we have so He can put more into our hands. In this way, generosity is the avenue for God's blessings.

questions

Has your giving become stagnant? How can you receive fresh blessings from God?

prayer

Father, help to me to pass on Your blessings.
When I give, fill my hands back up again.
Amen.

Principle (6)

Thinking Legacy

2 Timothy 2:2

In one of his most personal letters, the apostle Paul wrote to his protégé, Timothy, and offered sound advice to the young pastor. “You then my son,” wrote Paul, “be strong in the grace that is Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”

We are called to gain wisdom, and then share it with others, especially for the next generation. What we have, we are to pass on. That is our legacy.

Now is the time to think about what we will leave behind, and how we can successfully pass the torch to the next group of leaders.

questions

What will be your legacy? What are you leaving behind? What do you have—wisdom, tools, treasures—that the next generation needs?

prayer

Father, remind me of my legacy. Help me to entrust what I have been given to those who are qualified to receive. May I leave the world richer than when I arrived. Amen.

Principle (7)

Reflecting Glory

Matthew 5:14-16

Giving is preparation for our role in eternity, shaping us into who God wants us to be. For now, we are stewards of His possessions, and how we manage them reflects God's glory and generosity, or will be lost and destroyed.

When we invest what we have in God's kingdom and God's people, we become the lighthouse on a hill, shining for all the world to see. We make the world a brighter place, and reflect the image of a good God.

When we are good stewards we make an eternal impact—in this world and in the world to come.

questions

Is there something you're working too hard for that you won't need for eternity? How can you better use what you have to reflect the glory of God

prayer

Father, thank You for heaven. Please let us do everything we do in light of Your glory and in the promise of eternity. Amen.



Jesus came so we could have life and have it to the full

That life is available to us every time we join Him and use His good gifts to participate in His kingdom here on earth.

What's holding you back from taking hold of this life? What might become possible when you take the next step in faith?

He's calling you to trust Him on the journey. You were made for this!

How God Can Use Generosity In Your Life

Want to dive deeper?

Visit our library of information at www.cfa.charity for a collection of content about biblical generosity, including books, videos, seminars, websites, and studies. Explore how you can use generosity, fueled by DFAs, tools, and resources, in your life.