
Big Dreams, Bigger God: Growing My Generosity

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, July 7, 2019*

“Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.” **Matthew 6:1–4, NKJV**

The Heart of the Matter Is a
Matter of the Heart

Every Believer Should Be Giving a Portion of His or Her
Income to The Lord On a Regular Basis

What Should Be The #1 Motive of A Believer?

“Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things.” **Matthew 6:33, GNB**

God’s Kingdom

Obedience to the Word

Generosity Is God’s Litmus Test of Spiritual Growth

1. I Am Either Using My Money for The Kingdom of God or My Money Is Using Me

“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” **Matthew 6:24, NLT**

“Do not store up riches for yourselves here on earth, where moths and rust destroy, and robbers break in and steal. Instead, store up riches for yourselves in heaven... For your heart will always be where your riches are.” **Matthew 6:19–21, GNB**

2. Not Only Am I to Be Generous to Others, My Generosity Determines God’s Generosity Towards Me

“Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38, ESV

“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” 2 Corinthians 9:6, ESV

3. My Attitude Is as Important as My Generosity

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:7–8, ESV

Life Is Not About Having More, But That God
Would Have More of Me

4. Each of Us Have to Fight the Pull of Selfishness

“Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” Luke 12:15, ESV

*“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”
– C.S. Lewis*

What Would Have to Change in My Life for My Wealth and Influence to Be Surrendered to God?

“A lack of generosity refuses to acknowledge that your assets are not really yours, but God’s” – Tim Keller

It’s Not About How Much I Have but How Much
of Me God Has