

## **WHAT IS GIVING?**

**Q:** What is giving?

**Definition:**

- 1.** To present voluntarily and without expecting compensation
- 2.** To hand to someone
- 3.** To place in someone's care
- 4.** To grant (permission, opportunity, etc.) to someone

**A:** Giving is a supernatural system that God has designed to supply the needs of His children.

-A lot of times we as Christians are always looking to receive.

-How can we receive unless someone gives?

-God will use you to be the harvest for someone else.

## **WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?**

**Personal Quiz:**

**-What goes through your mind when someone asks you to help them?**

*(Do you feel put off, frustrated, uncomfortable...?)*

**-How do you feel after you have given your tithe and offering, or given to a church project?**

*(Do you feel pressured/forced, sick, depressed, fear...?)*

**-How do you react to someone in need?**

*(Do you walk the other way, pretend you didn't hear them, make up an excuse...?)*

-Have you ever met someone that would do anything for you at anytime?

-That person is a giver.

-When you are a giver your perspective on everything changes.

-Example: You shouldn't be working for a living; you should be working for a giving.

- Your job is not your source; God is your source.
- Giving goes beyond the natural human mind and begins to operate from the Love of God.
- Giving is a lifestyle.
- God is the biggest giver.
- You can't hang out with God and not be a giver.
- Being a giver goes beyond the tithe; it's who you are.
- Concerning tithes and offerings; until you lose the mindset of money, giving will never be a natural part of your life.

## **TAUGHT OR CAUGHT**

- You never want to be the highest person on the totem pole of your relationships.
- Are you surrounded by people that are better or further along than you?
- Have you ever heard, "You are a product of your environment."
- Most people who depend on someone else to take care of their needs usually hang out with others that are the same way.
- If you hang out with God you can't help but pick up on some of His habits.
- You need to surround yourself with givers.

## **THE LOST ART OF GIVING**

### **Luke 6:38 (KJV)**

*Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that you mete withal is shall be measured to you again.*

### **Luke 6:38 (Message)**

*Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back – given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity.*

- When you are generous it is contagious.
- Giving always causes or produces more giving.

## **2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (AMP)**

**6** *[Remember] this: he who sows sparingly and grudgingly will also reap sparingly and grudgingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to someone] will also reap generously and with blessings.*

**7** *Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind and purposed in his heart, not reluctantly or sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in, prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, "prompt to do it") giver [whose heart is in his giving].*

## **A LIFESTYLE, NOT A HOBBY**

### **2 Corinthians 9:10&11 (Message)**

**10** *This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer (KJV: sower) that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God,*

**11** *wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God.*

- God gives to the giver so that you can give again.
- A lot of people say, "I would give if I had it."
- God says, "You would have it if you'd give."
- It didn't say that He would give you seed so that you can sow. It said that He would give seed to a person who is already sowing.
- A farmer is a career, not a hobby.
- Giving has to be a lifestyle for you, not a hobby.

### **Ways you can give:**

- Financially
  - Time
  - Talents
  - Knowledge/Wisdom/Advice
- 
- Whichever way you give, God says that He will bless you in such a way that you can't even contain it.
  - God isn't looking at the method; He is looking at the heart.
  - You can't beat God giving.
  - When you please God you will know it. He'll show up in such a way that you can't help but know it is Him.