

Big Time Givers Have Big Time Joy

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

- **Good management of the resources God has blessed us with allows us to be generous, and generosity always produces much joy.**
- *"You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."* (Acts 20:35)
- **People often think giving is losing — but God says giving actually leads to real living!**
- "*Remember this - a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.' And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. As the Scriptures say, 'They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.'"*
  (2 Corinthians 9:6–9)
- **Generosity is not subtraction from our lives; it is the multiplication of our joy, our soul, and God's Kingdom.**

If We Want To Live A Life of Joy We Must Understand:

<u>CONTENTMENT</u> IS THE KEY TO TRUE WEALTH

- Paul - *"I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength"* (Philippians 4:12-13)
- **Many people are so busy chasing more, that they never enjoy what they already have.**

- *"True godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can take nothing with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content."* (1 Timothy 6:6-8)
- **True contentment isn't about what we have but about recognizing the wealth in being at peace with where God has us.**
- *"Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, 'I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.'"* (Hebrews 13:5)
- **Contentment and appreciation unlock the joy and freedom that true wealth brings.**

If We Want To Live A Life of Joy We Must Understand:

<u>GRATITUDE</u> CHANGES OUR PERSPECTIVE

- *"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."* (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- **Grateful hearts don't see scarcity; they see surplus.**
- *"And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful."* (Colossians 3:15)
- **Gratitude shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have and opens our eyes to the abundance God has already provided.**
- *"Give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."* (Ephesians 5:20)

If We Want To Live A Life of Joy We Must Understand:

<u>GENEROSITY</u> IS THE ANTIDOTE TO GREED

- Paul - **"***I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"* (Acts 20:35)
- **Greed steals our joy; while giving restores our joy.**
- *"A farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."* (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)
- **There is a direct correlation between what we invest in God's Kingdom, how we feel about earthly possessions, and the joy and freedom with which we live our lives.**
- Jesus - *"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full - pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back."*

(Luke 6:38)

- **God blesses those who prioritize His kingdom and His church.**

If We Want To Live A Life of Joy We Must Understand:

GIVING BUILDS GOD'S KINGDOM, NOT JUST OUR COMFORT

- Jesus - *"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.* (Matthew 6:19-21)
- **Our money builds what your heart treasures most.**
- *"Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others."* (1 Timothy 6:17-18)
- **Where we invest our money reveals what we truly value.**
- **When we give to God's kingdom, we align our hearts with His purposes and priorities, ensuring our resources are used for eternal impact rather than temporary comfort.**

If We Want To Live A Life of Joy We Must Understand:

WE CAN'T OUTGIVE GOD

- ***"****And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others."* (2 Corinthians 9:8)
- **God keeps the cycle going — we give, He blesses, we give more, and we enjoy it more.**
- Jesus - *"If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him."* (Matthew 7:11)
- **The Bible is clear about the generosity of God.**
- *"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16)

- **When we give generously, we don't lose our life — we find it.**
- *"Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life."* (1Timothy 6:17-19)

- ***What if the most enjoyable life isn't about getting more, but giving more away?***