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|  |  | sermon notes November 22, 2015 Pastor John Speight How to Live Generously <small>LISTEN, GET NOTES + SHARE AT CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/MEDIA</small> |
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*Remember the words that the Lord Jesus himself said,
 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'
 Acts 20:35 (TEV)*

Key Words in the Scriptures

- **BELIEVE:** _____
- **PRAY:** _____
- **LOVE:** _____
- **GIVE:** _____

*Give, and it will be given to you...
 For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.
 Luke 6:38 (NIV)*

How Giving Benefits My Own Life

1. GIVING _____

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...

John 3:16 (NIV)

*“You can give without loving,
 but you can never love without giving.”*

-Robert Louis Stevenson

2. GIVING _____

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21 (NIV)

3. GIVING _____

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way... they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

I Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV)

The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your life.

Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB)

4. GIVING

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it!” Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ... ⁹ Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns... Proverbs 3:5,9 (NIV/LB)

5. GIVING

...Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share with others whatever God has given you. ¹⁹ By doing this you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity! 1 Timothy 6:18-19 (LB)

6. GIVING

Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor. Proverbs 22:9 (NLT)

Good will come to those who are generous... ⁶ they will be remembered forever. Psalm 112:5-6 (NIV)

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)

John Wesley (1703 - 1791)

John Wesley is recognized as the founder of Methodism. An acclaimed preacher, Wesley travelled extensively on horseback and drew large crowds for his outdoor sermons. A contemporary of William Wilberforce, Wesley was a strong voice opposing slavery in England and the United States. His influence upon modern Christianity can be seen by the large number of Methodist organizations in the Wesleyan tradition all over the world.

Wesley’s Thoughts on Biblical Stewardship

“Do you not know that God entrusted you with your money (all above what buys necessities for your families) to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to help the stranger, the widow, the fatherless; and, indeed, as far as it will go, to relieve the wants of all mankind? How can you, how dare you, defraud the Lord, by applying it to any other purpose?” -John Wesley

“Earn all you can, give all you can, save all you can.” -John Wesley

“When a man becomes a Christian, he becomes industrious, trustworthy and prosperous. Now, if that man when he gets all he can and saves all he can, does not give all he can, I have more hope for Judas Iscariot than for that man!” - John Wesley

“Not, how much of my money will I give to God, but, how much of God’s money will I keep for myself?” - John Wesley