

Doctrine of Giving

Principles of Grace Giving

1. All wealth belongs to God. Individuals need to be reminded of this.

Psalms 24:1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

“The things that I love
And hold dear to my heart,
They are borrowed and
Not mine at all.
Jesus only let me use them
To brighten my life,
So remind me, remind me dear Lord

Roll back the curtain of memory now and then,
Show me where you brought me from
And where I could have been.
Remember I'm a human and humans forget,
So remind me, remind me dear Lord

Nothing good have I done
To deserve God's own Son.
I'm not worthy of the scars
In His hands.
Yet He chose the road to Calvary
To die in my stead,
Why He loved me I can't understand.

Roll back the curtain of memory now and then.
Show me where you brought me from and
Where I could have been.
Remember I'm a human and humans forget,
So remind me, remind me dear Lord.

Remember I'm a human and humans forget,
So remind me, remind me dear Lord.”

2. There are two great dangers in personal wealth. There is the danger of pride, and there is the danger of a false sense of security. Wealth is not to be trusted. Only the living God is to be trusted.
 - 1 Timothy 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

3. Those who honor the Lord in maintaining His works, shall be honored by the Lord. The tithe was established to take care of the Levitical priesthood, and the sacrificial system of worship God had established.

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

4. God has made ever individual a steward of wealth. The pattern was established in the Garden of Eden.
 - Genesis 2:15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
5. God intends for personal wealth to be purposely circulated.
 - Ruth 2:16 And let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave them, that she may glean them, and rebuke her not.
6. The wealth of God's grace can be appropriated by grace giving.
 - Luke 6:38 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 ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.
7. To receive generously, a person must give generously. Sow with a purpose, believe the promise, and enlarge the scoop.
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
8. Give on the basis of faith, and not on the basis of emotion.
 - Based on emotion, the little lad would not have given up his lunch. John 6:9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? 10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. 12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. 13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

9. Give in a rational manner, to an appropriate cause, and with a cheerful heart.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

10. Give as a reflection of the love of God.

- John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

In 1986, Donna Ashlock was a 14 year old freckle faced teenager in need of a heart transplant. At San Francisco's Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center she received the gift of life from 15 year old donor, Felipe Garza, Jr. Ironically, Felipe knew and loved Donna, but was destined for a premature death due to brain damage. His funeral was held at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Patterson California. On the casket was a bouquet, a single red rose surrounded by baby's breath with a ribbon reading, "With Love, Donna Ashlock." Inside her body beat the heart of Felipe Garza. His death gave her life. That is a reflection of the love of God.