

## The Transformation of Living to Give Luke 6:27-49

### I. Introduction

- A. There is a purpose for us being here on earth.
- B. We were born selfish by nature.

### II. God turns us from self life to pouring out our lives for others.

- A. **Lu 6:38 Give**, and it will be **given** to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."
- B. Context is that of loving (**Lk. 6:27**) *agapeo* even our enemies.
- C. ""For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." **John 3:16, NIV.**

### III. It is possible to give without loving.

#### A. 1 Cor. 13:3

- 1. The Sunday before Christmas, Allison Denight's Sunday school class brought her gifts. One little girl presented a package and innocently said, "Here, someone gave this to my mommy and she didn't want it." -- Allison Denight, Punta Gorda, FL, Today's Christian Woman, "Heart to Heart."

#### B. Mt. 6:1ff... it is possible to do correct things with wrong motivation.

- 1. 6:2. "do not sound a trumpet before you." Remember the common saying, "Blow your own horn"? This is the same idea... so that they may be honored... wanted to be mentioned in sermons as a good example, a plaque with their name on it or stained glass window... they have their reward.
- 2. Jesus is talking about giving to be noticed by men.
- 3. Mt. 6:3 -- doing things so only God sees
- 4. It is OK to give knowing that a reward is promised.
  - a) "After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."" **Genesis 15:1, NIV.**
  - b) "But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."" **2 Chronicles 15:7, NIV.**
  - c) "Misfortune pursues the sinner, but prosperity is the reward of the righteous." **Proverbs 13:21, NIV.**
  - d) "But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked." **Luke 6:35, NIV.**
  - e) "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for." **Hebrews 11:1, 2, NIV.**
  - f) "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be ill-treated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward." **Hebrews 11:24-26, NIV.**
  - g) "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." **Hebrews 12:2, NIV.**

- 5. **ILL.**- The American industrialist, Henry Ford, was once asked to donate money for the construction of a new medical facility. The billionaire pledged to donate \$5,000. The next day in the newspaper, the headline read, "Henry Ford contributes \$50,000 to the local hospital." The irate Ford was on the phone immediately to complain to the fund-raiser that he had been misunderstood. The fund-raiser replied that they would print a retraction in the paper the following day to read, "Henry Ford reduces his donation by \$45,000." Realizing the poor publicity that would result, the industrialist agreed to the \$50,000 contribution in return for the following: That above the entrance to the hospital was to be carved the biblical inscription: "I came among you and you took me in."

### IV. It is impossible to love without giving.

**A. John 3:16** “For God so loved the world that He gave...” **We give to be like God.**

1. ILL.- Preacher W.A. Criswell told of an ambitious young man who told his pastor he'd promised God a tithe of his income. They prayed for God to bless his career. At that time he was making \$40.00 per week and tithing \$4.00. In a few years his income increased and he was tithing \$500.00 per week. He called on the pastor to see if he could be released from his tithing promise, it was too costly now. The pastor replied, "I don't see how you can be released from your promise, but we can ask God to reduce your income to \$40.00 a week, then you'd have no problem tithing \$4.00."
2. Sophie Tucker (January 13, 1884 - February 9, 1966) "Last of the Red Hot Mamas":vaudeville entertainer is quoted as saying:From birth to eighteen, a girl needs good parents. From eighteen to thirty-five, she needs good looks. From thirty-five to fifty-five, she needs a good personality. From fifty-five on, she needs cash.
  - a) Most people need cash occasionally. Paul needed it for support in his missionary and evangelistic ministry.

**B. One reason to live to give is to help others out of love.**

1. "Share with God's people who are in need. Practise hospitality." **Romans 12:13, NIV.**
2. **Gal. 6:9-10** “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”
3. **Prov. 3:27** “Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.” God has given us the power to act, to do good, to share, etc.

**C. We can give to have it accredited to our accounts.**

1. **Php 4:17** Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be **credited** to your **account**.There is a heavenly account.
  - a) **Matt. 6:19-20** Jesus said, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.”
  - b) **I Tim. 6:18-19** “Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”
  - c) Christians in America give 4 billion dollars a year to their churches. SOUND GOOD? Is good. Sounds very good until you hear that those same Christian people spend something like 34 billion dollars a year on diet and exercise products.

**D. We Give to Please God.**

1. **Php 4:18**, “They (the Philippians’ gift to Paul) are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.”
2. **Heb. 13:16** “And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for which such sacrifices God is pleased.”

**E. Give to Meet needs.**

1. **Prov. 3:9-10** “Honor the Lord with your wealth...then your barns will be filled to overflowing...”
2. **II Cor 9:6** “Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”
3. **Malachi 3:10** “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. 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.”
4. **Prov. 11:24-25** “One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper, he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.”

**V. IF YOU DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU ARE GETTING, CHANGE WHAT YOU ARE GIVING.**

- A. It is moronic to think you can keep giving the same and get things differently. If you want different results you must change the way you are doing things.
- B. Seems in the USA we cannot learn there is a correlation between credit cards, and money. You can buy now, and not make a payment for six months? Ask them when the interest starts? There seems to be no

correlation between what we make and what we spend?

1 . **Matthew 7:16** By their fruit you will recognise them.

2 . **Matthew 7: 20** by their fruit you will recognise them.

## **VI. LOVE GROWING COLD IS A SATANIC GOAL.**

**A . Matthew 24:12** Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold,

1 . **I John 3:15** Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

2 . **I John 4:8** Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

3 . **I John 4: 11** Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

4 . **Matthew 10:8** --- "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:8, NIV.

5 . **Acts 3:6** -- Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."

6 . **II Corinthians 9:6** -- "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6, 7, NIV.

ILL.- Someone said, "It's not what you do with the million if fortune should be your lot, but what are you doing at present with the dollar and quarter you got." To give or not to give? The real question is: what are you doing with what God has already given you?