

GODLY, EQUIPPED, ACCOUNTABLE, AND RELIABLE MEN

We will use the book <u>The Measure of a Man</u> by Gene Getz, which draws on the apostle Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus to discover 20 attributes of a godly man.

Getting a copy of the book is encouraged but not required.

LEARNING GENEROSITY - FREE FROM THE LOVE OF MONEY

Week 15 - March 8, 2021 - 1Tim. 3:3

A. Generosity is not only what we give, but how we give - 2 Cor. 9:7 - So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

B. The example of tipping

- 1. **Opportunity to serve others** serve those who are trying to make a living
- 2. Opportunity to witness generosity makes an impact and so does a lack of it

*If we can't afford to tip generously then we probably should not be eating out at a restaurant.

***Alexander's Giving - Our giving should represent "who we are as God's people"

C. B. Is God in your budget

- 1. Studies indicate that many Christians do not put God's work in their budgets
- 2. We either but God in our budget or we give Him what's left over
- 3. Studies indicate that many Christians give very little to support the Lord's work and struggle to demonstrate a life of generosity.

D. A Matter of Priorities

- 1. **Matt. 6:24** "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.
- 2. **Matt. 6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
- 3. **Matt. 6:19-21** "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

E. An Age Old Problem

- 1. Forgetting what the Lord has done Deut. 6:10-12
- 2. Failing to recognize the source of our blessings Deut. 8:15-18, 1 Tim. 6:17-18
- 3. Looking to the world for our provision Rev. 3:14-22

F. Where does a heart of generosity come from?

- 1. Trusting the Lord Prov. 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding
 - Mark 6:26-34 (Do not worry)
- 2. Acknowledging the Lord Prov. 3:6-7 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.
- 3. Honoring the Lord Prov. 3:9-10 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.
- 4. An other-centered focus Gal. 6:2 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.