

## Give What God Has Given You

February 25-26, 2017

**INTRODUCTION:** Living or Life?

1 Chronicles 29:14 (All verses from New International Version 1984)

***...who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.***

### Give What God Has Given You

**1. All we give (and all we keep) comes from God.**

- 1 Chronicles 29:12 ***Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.***
- 1 Chronicles 29:14 ***...who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.***

**2. As you give, follow through with God's plan.**

- 2 Corinthians 9:8 ***...God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, // you will abound in every good work.***

- 2 Corinthians 9:11 *You will be made rich in every way // so that you can be generous on every occasion, // and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*

**3. Listen to Jesus on every step of your Journey of Generosity.**

- Matthew 17:4 *Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”*
- Matthew 17:5 *While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”*

**CONCLUSION:** What will you do?

We’ve been on a Journey of Generosity the last five weeks

Start with the heart – give and live with gratitude

Sacrifice – I give up something I love for something I love even more.

Live by faith – Jesus teaches me where my treasure is, my heart will be also.

Live to bless others – Plant seeds of generosity and watch the harvest God gives.

Give – Commit to give.

# **G.P.S. Grow. Pray. Study.**

Things I'd like to remember from this week's message:

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**Monday:** Read *1 Chronicles 29:12*. What is your idea of generosity? What has surprised you the last five weeks on our journey of generosity?

**Tuesday:** Read *1 Chronicles 29:14*. Why is God concerned with what we give? With what we keep?

**Wednesday:** Read *2 Corinthians 9:8*. God gives to us, so that we can give to others. Teachers teach, so students can learn. Chefs cook so hungry people can be fed and nourished. Health care providers help those who are sick to be well again. How might the talents, abilities, work you do, finances you receive, be used to meet the needs of others?

**Thursday:** Read *2 Corinthians 9:11*. Notice Paul's order – God makes us rich so we can be generous – that will lead people to thank God. What have others done or given you that led you to thank and praise God? What might God be calling you to give or do so that others will thank and praise God?

**Friday:** Read *Matthew 17:4*. A great temptation in life is when you have a holy moment, an incredible moment where you experienced God at work in your life, you build a monument and stay there like Peter, instead of recognizing the holy moment as part of God's movement in your life's journey. What are some great moments in your life where you have experienced God's grace? How have you been tempted to build a monument and stay there? How has the Holy Spirit led you to leverage that moment to follow the movement of God at work in your life?

**Saturday:** Read *Matthew 17:5*. In the midst of Peter's monument building plan, God the Father speaks telling Peter, and us, to listen to Jesus. What has Jesus been saying to you recently in your prayer time, Bible reading time, and amid the holy moments of your life?

Going Deeper:

**BOOK TO READ:** *Love Does* by Bob Goff

**NEXT WEEK:** 1 Chronicles 29:15-20 **Value the Gift of Journeying Together**