

Financial Freedom – GIVE - (4 of 5)

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Luke 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."

Give is a personal word -
It is a practical word -
It is a possible word -
It is a profitable word.

1. It is a PERSONAL Word

1. Inclusive - the command is plural - this is for everybody

This includes everything. Not just my Tithe, but my Time and my Talent.

2. Imperative

This speaks of necessity. There are some things we must do because we are commanded by God to do them.

1. some give nothing, Based on some studies. . . .
 - Those making less than 10,000 dollars a year give more than 5% to charity.
 - Those making 50,000 to 100,000 dollars a year give 3.2% to charity
 - Those making more than 100,000 dollars give 2.9% to charity
2. some give out of duty
3. some give out of fear

The Bible says,

- We must be born again
- We must love
- We must pray
- We must study
- We must serve
- We must witness

Likewise we are commanded by God to give and under a curse and condemnation if we don't.

Mal. 3:10

2. It is a Practical Word

Within this little word, **G I V E**, is the mystery of life.

It works -

What you give is what you get; only you get far more than what you give.

We realize this in the negative sense -

Matt. 7:1, 2 -

"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Gal. 6:7 - 9 -

"Do not be deceived; God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows, the one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

And we think of all the negative results of sowing bad seed but we do not think of all the positive results in sowing good seed.

Give and you will get -

Are you short of time?

I have found the more you give of your time to others, the more time you seem to receive.

Are you short of energy?

Friendship?

Money?

Joy?

John D. Rockefeller -

Was dying at a young age, he was living on crackers and milk and could scarcely enjoy the results of his untold wealth.

He spent most of his time in bed, but at this own word had not enjoyed one uninterrupted hour of sleep in 5 years. He was hungry but could not eat miserable with no apparent recourse but to slowly give in to death.

He was weakened by a disease and racked with pain from an ulcerated stomach. He supposed that since he was dying, he might enjoy doing something that he had not done until then. Didn't need - so started giving it away

Among the things he did, there was one activity which he credited with much of his miraculous healing.

What was that one thing? He learned to GIVE!

Within 12 months after he began the exciting adventure of giving, he was virtually well and spent the rest of his days a whole man.

3. It's a POSSIBLE Word

Every command is a promise. The promise is this - what God commands, God enables.

Lazarus:

When Jesus standing outside the tomb of Lazarus said, "*Lazarus come forth.*" - John 11:43

Lazarus didn't say - "I can't Lord, I've been dead 4 days."

He came forth. He wasn't even dressed for the occasion of life. He was dressed for death.

Have you ever considered how he got there to the mouth of the tomb?
He was bound - head, foot, hand and face - but he got there.

What Jesus commanded, He enabled, praise the Lord!

Man with Withered Hand:

One day Jesus was teaching in the synagogue, and there came in a man with a withered hand.

Jesus stopped His teaching and said, "Stretch forth thine hand." - Matt. 12:13

The man didn't stand there and say, "You wouldn't mock a cripple, would you? I cannot stretch forth my hand."

No, he stretched it forth. Jesus enabled with His command. What He states as imperative is not impossible.

Lame Man:

There was the lame man who had residence on the same pallet for 38 years (John 5:5-9)

One day Jesus came by and said, "Rise, take up thy bed and walk."
The man didn't say - "I can't. I've tried a thousand times, but I can't."

He did it. He did just what Jesus commanded him to do.

He found that anything Jesus demanded was backed by His dynamic. His command was a promise.

Aren't you glad that He never asks us to do something that we cannot do?
Thus, we should never be shocked at any command.

The fact that Jesus makes the command is the statement of the promise that we have in us in Him the power to perform it. Hallelujah!

4. **It is a PROFITABLE Word**

Luke 6:28 -

"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."

II Cor. 9:6 -

"Remember this; whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously."

- **blesses us**
- **blesses others**

James Dobson once compared life to a Monopoly game. We work hard to accumulate things so we can impress people who will probably resent us anyway.

Then one day it's all over, we give it all back, and someone puts us in a box and closes the lid. Suddenly the dollar bills, deeds, and hotels don't matter. What matters is whether or not we pursued righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. What matters is whether or not we are ready to face God.