

Forward Thinking – Moving Toward Life That Is Truly Life

1 God is the first and most generous giver.

“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

2 We are most like God when we give.

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant.” Philippians 2:5-7

3 When we give, the world takes notice.

“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of His possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had... There were no needy persons among them.” Acts 4:32-34

4 Generosity helps free us from the dangers of money.

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?” Matthew 6:25

5 The antidote to materialism is generosity.

“Then He [Jesus] said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’” Luke 12:15

6 Generosity leads us to greater dependence of God.

“No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the others, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Luke 16:13

7 Great blessings accompany the generous life.

“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Acts 20:35

8 Generous givers experience a life full of joy.

“We want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.” 2 Corinthians 8: 1-2

9 God's power abounds in a community of generous givers.

“All believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:44-47

10 Everyone can excel in the grace of giving.

“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” 2 Corinthians 8:7

11 Giving accomplishes great things when done in love.

“If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.” 1 Corinthians 13:3

12 Excellent planning leads to excellence in giving.

“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 9:7