
Basic Disciplines for Believers: #4 – Generous Giving

What Do I Give? EVERYTHING!

#1: **Bible Saturation** (Joshua 1:8) – #2: **Continual Prayer** (Colossians 4:2) – #3: **Willful Submission** (Romans 13:1-2)

Generous Giving: I am responding to God's giving by giving myself and my resources for His use.

2 Cor 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

1 John 3:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

Prov 3:9-10 ⁹ Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; ¹⁰ So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Acts 20:35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

Overriding Principle: All we have and are belongs to God!

- **Psalms 24:1** A Psalm of David. The earth *is* the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.
- **Prov 3:9** Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;
- **Haggai 2:8** The silver *is* Mine, and the gold *is* Mine,' says the Lord of hosts.
- **1 Cor 4:7** For who makes you differ *from another*? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive *it*, why do you boast as if you had not received *it*?

SIX AREAS THAT I AS A BELIEVER GIVE TO GOD

1. ME – I Give Myself to God

Matt 16:24-26 ²⁴Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶ "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Rom 12:1-2 ¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Rom 6:12-13 ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. (Prov 4:20-27)

1 Cor 6:11-20 ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. ¹² All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. ¹³ Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For "*the two*," He says, "*shall become one flesh*." ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*. ¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is in* you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

2 Cor 8:1-5 ¹ Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: ² that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. ³ For I bear witness that according to *their* ability, yes, and beyond *their* ability, *they were* freely willing, ⁴ imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. ⁵ And not *only* as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and *then* to us by the will of God.

Eph 4:22-24 ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

1 John 3:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

2. MIND – I Give My Thoughts to God

Psalms 1:1-3 ¹ Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight *is* in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper. (Joshua 1:8-9)

2 Cor 10:2-5 ² But I beg *you* that when I am present I may not be bold with that confidence by which I intend to be bold against some, who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Phil 4:8-9 ⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things. ⁹ The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

3. **MUSCLE – I Give My Energy To God**

Prov 10:4 He who has a slack hand becomes poor, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.

Ecc 9:10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with your might; for *there is* no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

4. **MINUTES – I am to give my time to the Lord.**

Psalms 90:12 So teach *us* to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Luke 14:27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

John 8:29 "And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

John 9:4 "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work.

Eph 5:15-17 ¹⁵ See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*.

5. **MY FAMILY – I give my family to God.**

Gen 22:1-2 ¹ Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² Then He said, "Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Matt 19:29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. (Luke 14:26)

Eph 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

6. **MONEY – I Give My Money To God (Luke 14...)**

a) **To Honor God and Acknowledge His Ownership**

- **Psalms 76:11** Make vows to the Lord your God, and pay *them*; Let all who are around Him bring presents to Him who ought to be feared.
- **Prov 3:9** Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;

b) **To Promote Eternal Things**

- **Matt 6:19-21** ¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

c) **To Help Others**

- **1 John 3:17** But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? (1 Cor 16:1-2; 2 Cor 9:1-15)
- **James 1:27** ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

d) **To Support Pastors**

- **Gal 6:6-8** ⁶ Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.
- **1 Tim 5:17** Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

e) **To Support Evangelizers**

- **1 Cor 9:13-14** ¹³ Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat *of the things* of the temple, and those who serve at the altar partake *of the offerings* of the altar? ¹⁴ Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel.
- **Titus 3:13** Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing.