

THE
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LIFE



Living Generously

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Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

2 Corinthians 8:5 (NIV)

**And they exceeded our expectations:
They gave themselves first of all to the
Lord, and then by the will of God also to
us.**

Principal 1:

Give yourself first to the Lord.

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2 Corinthians 8:8-9 (NIV)

I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

Principal 2:

I must be willing to be made materially poor, if necessary, in order that I or others might be made spiritually rich.

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2 Corinthians 8:10-12 (NIV)

And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

Principal 3:

I must give out of that which I have.

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Take Away

- 1. God owns everything.**

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2. Trust God to supply my needs.

Mark 12:41-44 (NIV)

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

**Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said,
“Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put
more into the treasury than all the
others. They all gave out of their wealth;
but she, out of her poverty, put in
everything—all she had to live on.”**

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Take Away

3. The deeper the level of my giving, the greater is the expression of my love.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (NIV)

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)

And 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.

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