

GREG'S NOTES

A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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WHAT JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT MONEY, POSSESSIONS, AND GIVING

Matthew 6

Sometimes in life, we can become obsessed with stuff. Jesus told a story about a man who had a lot of stuff. He had so much stuff, he built bigger buildings to house it. But, God essentially said to him, “You fool. You will die this very night; then who will get it all?” Jesus said, “Real life is not measured by how much we own.” So what is real life measured by and what does the Bible say to the person that has resources?

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

1. **God loves a cheerful giver.** There are things in the Bible that God says He hates. There are also things that God says He loves. God says, “I love a cheerful giver.” This is the real secret of giving—that you do it cheerfully.
2. **It is a joy to give.** Paul said, “Don’t give because you are under pressure. Give joyfully.” You say, “I can’t give joyfully so I won’t give at all.” Ask God to change your heart instead of not giving at all. It is more blessed to give than it is to receive.
3. **If we give to the Lord He promises to give back to us.** Every farmer knows if you sow a little seed, you get a little crop. If you sow more seed, your crop will be larger. If you want to be cheap, if you want to hold onto it, you can. God will not force you to give, but He is able to give you everything you need and more.
4. **Wherever you are in life, give thanks for it.** Philippians 4:11 says, “I have learned how to get along happily whether I have much or little. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of contentment in every situation, whether it be a full stomach or hunger, plenty or want; for I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power” (TLB).

RELEVANT REMINDERS

- Jesus said, “Real life is not measured by how much we own, but rather it is measured by who we know.”
- It is foolish to store up earthly wealth and not have a rich relationship with God.
- You need to give to God what belongs to Him. Your life. Your time. Your resources. Everything.

APPLICABLE ACTIONS

What kind of donation is your life making? One day your life is going to end. The man in today’s story went into eternity and apparently, didn’t have a lot of room for God. We want to be ready investing in things that matter. Having our priorities in order and most importantly being right with God.