

Giving | 1 Chronicles 29:10-16

1) Note first the honour and gratitude given to the Lord. Generosity is his nature!

Look at verses 12, 14 and 16. What is message of these verses? How does this encourage and challenge your lifestyle and wealth?

2) Bishop Matt Porter addresses this key issue of discipleship in his small book called *'The Art of Giving'*, (Publisher Authentic). We commend it to you for further reading.

His premise is that generosity is a spiritual discipline that speaks to and is practiced through financial giving. In his book he talks through five ways we should give:

i. **Cheerfully** - The spirit with which we give matters to God

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–7 and Proverbs 22:9. What emotions do you associate with giving? What makes giving feel joyful and difficult for you?

ii. **Regularly** – Generosity grows through consistency

Read 1 Corinthians 16:2 and Malachi 3:10. How can you build a rhythm of generosity; are there things you need to address to do this?

iii. **Occasionally** – not all giving is planned, it is spontaneous too, these moments require spiritual sensitivity.

Look up Romans 12:13. Am I open to spontaneous opportunities to give?

iv. **Collectively** – The early church modelled shared generosity by meeting needs together.

Read Acts 2:44–45 and 2 Corinthians 8:13–14. How does shared giving build unity?

v. **Expectantly** - Giving with faith and trusting God for the impact

Read Luke 6:38 and Galatians 6:9. What does it mean to give expectantly without being transactional? How can faith shape your giving?

3) Which of the five areas above challenged you most? What is one long-term change you will commit to?

4) Remind yourself of these words from 1 Chronicles:

“Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things; Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand; Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided.” for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.”

How can you make them your prayer going forward?