

Wanting To Be Like Dad

Context – Context – Context:

Romans 12:1-3

Therefore:

Living Sacrifice:

Do Not Conform:

Changing The Way We Think:

Romans 12:8 & 13

▶ This isn't about **giving**, this is about **management**.

It is not how much of **our wealth** we **give to God**,
but how much of **his wealth** we keep **for ourselves**.

▶ **Generosity** is the key to unlocking the **ownership** myth.

Saying it is all God's and **spending** like it is all God's
are two different things.

My 4 Pillars For Being A Trustee:

- ❶ Matthew 25:14-30: **The talents**
- ❷ Matthew 25:31-46: **The final judgment**
- ❸ Luke 12:13-21: **The foolish rich**
- ❹ 1 Timothy 6:17-18: **The wise rich**

Start Somewhere:

Food for Thought for the week of June 18, 2017

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. One of the keys to building generosity into our life is learning to be content with what we have. As most of us know, developing this kind of contentment can be a challenge. What insight and hope does Paul give us in moving toward this kind of contentment?

2 Corinthians 6:10 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁰ sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Philippians 4:10-13 *New International Version (NIV)*

Thanks for Their Gifts

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

What are your greatest challenges in being content with what you have?

How can the principles in Matthew 6:25-27, 33-34 help us grow in our ability to be content with either much or little?

Matthew 6:25-27 *New International Version (NIV)*

Do Not Worry

²⁵ "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 than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

Matthew 6:33-34 *New International Version (NIV)*

³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

2. The ultimate motivation for generosity is simply a response to the generosity Jesus has poured out on us. Understanding and being genuinely thankful for what Jesus has done for us is often a first step in developing a generous mindset. What blessings from Christ are found in the following verses?

1 Timothy 1:16-17 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Timothy 2:3-6 *New International Version (NIV)*

³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

1 Peter 1:3-5 *New International Version (NIV)*

Praise to God for a Living Hope

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through

faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

3. It's natural to think that if we made more money, we would be more generous. But studies show that a rise in income doesn't necessarily mean a rise in giving. If you were to come into financial prosperity in the near future, how could the following verses help you be one of the people who actually become more generous?

Proverbs 3:9-10 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁹ Honor the LORD with your wealth,
with the firstfruits of all your crops;
¹⁰ then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Proverbs 15:22 *New International Version (NIV)*

²² Plans fail for lack of counsel,
but with many advisers they succeed.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁰ Whoever loves money never has enough;
whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.
This too is meaningless.

Matthew 6:19-21 *New International Version (NIV)*

Treasures in Heaven

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.