

The Ripple Effect

“The Ripple Effect of Generosity”

- Introduction:
1. Do you believe you can have an impact on the lives of others, even long after you are dead and gone?
 2. Let’s examine how our lives have been affected by the lives of others, and how our lives can affect the lives of others as well.

I. Generosity and Godliness

- A. More than a few people have an unbiblical view of money and possessions.
 1. Some view poverty as noble.
 2. Some view wealthiness as noble.
- B. People often struggle with generosity.
- C. It’s hard to give up what was hard earned.
- D. Guilt doesn’t move people as much as when they are made aware that generosity and giving are rooted in the very nature of God.
- D. (Acts 20:35; John 3:16).
- E. Viewed in this fashion, giving isn’t a thing we “do,” but a thing we are trying to “become.”

II. How To Give

- A. A sub point in The “Sermon on the Mount” could be entitled, “The Sermon on the Amount.”
 1. How long will it last (Matthew 6:19-20)?
 2. Where’s your heart (Matthew 6:21-23)?
 3. Who’s your master (Matthew 6:24)?

III. The Ripple Effect of Giving

- A. (Mark 12:41-44) The widow and her two pennies.
- B. (Acts 4:32-36; 5:14) Barnabas.
- C. (2 Corinthians 8-9).
 1. Their zeal stirred up others (2 Corinthians 9:2).
 2. It met needs (2 Corinthians 9:12).
 3. It caused God to be glorified by saints and non-saints alike (2 Corinthians 9:13).
 4. It forged a relationship (2 Corinthians 9:14).

- Conclusion:
1. Let’s try to get out of ourselves.
 2. Let’s see our wealth as opportunities to show people the nature of God.
 3. Let’s find joy in giving, and take advantage of the doors it will open.