

Sermon Series: Blessed to Be a Blessing

“How Should I Use God’s Blessings?”

Acts 20:33-35
Pew Bible pg# 1156

- Jesus teaches that I am “*more blessed*” when I learn how to take my existing blessings and _____ them with others.
- In other words, I am blessed in order that I might be a _____ to someone else!
- You may ask, “You mean I have to take my blessings and give them all away?” Certainly not. But what is God’s plan for the believer?

First, God has blessed you to provide for your _____ . vs. 34a

- “*For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.*” **2 Thessalonians 3:10**
- The Bible defines what “needs” are in 1 Timothy 6:6-8.

Second, God has blessed you to provide for your _____ ones. vs. 34b

- “*But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*” **1 Timothy 5:8**

Third, God has blessed you so that you can bless _____ . vs. 35

- Here is the danger. We spend so much of God's blessings on ourselves that we have nothing or very little left to be a _____ to others.
- According to the Bible, one of the prime motivations we should have for working and making money is so that we can _____. 1 Timothy 6:17-18
- *"Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."*
Ephesians 4:28

- God has blessed you to be a blessing.
- What we hoard and spend on ourselves will all be left behind and forever _____ when we die.
- What we _____ away will impact lives on this earth after we are dead and gone, and throughout eternity.

Sermon Series: Blessed to Be a Blessing
“What Happens When I Share
God’s Blessings?” Philippians 4:10-19

Pew Bible pg# 1156

- What happens when you become a channel of blessing to others through sacrificial giving?

First, you gain the joy of true _____.
vs. 10-12

- There is a major misconception that Satan has planted in the minds of people - the more I _____, the more content I will be.
- When a believer has learned contentment, he has a _____ in his heart that is priceless.

**Second, you help the _____ of
Christ to advance. vs. 15-16**

- Paul was a missionary.
- According to the Bible, Paul had financial needs.
- Because these people gave sacrificially, a great multitude of Greeks in Thessalonica were _____.
- *“And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.”*

Acts 17:4

- If the gospel of Christ is to advance, it will only happen through the sacrificial _____ of God's people.

Third, you store up eternal _____.
vs. 17-18

- According to verse 18, did God see their sacrificial gifts? What effect did their sacrificial giving have on God? It was well-_____ to God.
- All that Paul was able to accomplish through their giving abounded to their account in _____.
- It was laying up _____ treasure for them that they would enjoy for all of eternity.

Fourth, you insure God's _____. vs. 19

- God has promised to meet the _____ of the believer who is generous with God's blessings.

- God has promised to work on the givers' behalf in two ways:
 1. He will meet our _____ while here on earth.
 2. He will reward us _____ when we get to heaven.

Sermon Series: Blessed to Be a Blessing

“How to Become a Channel of Blessing”

Philippians 4:10-18 Pew Bible pg# 1223

- Jesus said, *“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”* **Acts 20:35**
- In other words, I am blessed in order that I might be a _____.
- How can I become a channel of blessing that God can flow His power through and use me to help further His work here on this earth?

**First, it requires a _____ decision.
vs. 15**

- _____ is a personal decision of the heart. It is between you and God.
- The _____ giver gives whether anybody else does or not.
- *“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”* **2 Corinthians 9:7**

**Second, giving must become a _____
practice. vs. 10, 16**

- Did you notice, there was a pattern to their giving?

- These people had a _____ of giving. It was a practice in their lives.
- *“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.” 1 Corinthians 16:1-2*

**Third, trust Christ to give _____ you.
vs. 13**

- Only _____ can bring the ability to shed the cultural trappings of materialism and greed.
- If you are saved, you have the ultimate grace giver living _____ of you, Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 8:9
- As the Philippians yielded themselves to Christ who lived _____ them, the gracious and giving heart of our Savior was living _____ them.

Sermon Series: Blessed to Be a Blessing “How to Accomplish the Work of God”

Exodus 35-36 Pew Bible pg# 104

First, the people gave with a _____ attitude.

- God specified the attitude that was to be present in those who gave for the tabernacle (25:2). The key word is “_____.” cf. 35:21-22, 29
- *“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7*
- God wants His people to give willingly, out of _____ for Him.
- Christ is our example of giving willingly.
- *“Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.” John 10:17-18*

**Second, the people gave as God _____
them. 35:5, 22-28**

- *“Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.” 1 Corinthians 16:2*
- *“For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.” 2 Corinthians 8:12*

**Third, the people gave _____ than
enough. 36:4-6**

- When God’s people’s hearts are _____, there will always be sufficient resources to meet the needs.

The result is that God’s work is able to move forward and be accomplished. All of this results in _____ lives.

Sermon Series: Blessed to Be a Blessing
"God's Grace: Abounding Through Us"

2 Corinthians 8-9

Pew Bible pg# 1205

Grace giving involves three principles:

God's grace abounding _____ us.

- Do you know what grace is? It is receiving the favor, acceptance, and approval of God when you don't _____ it.
- *"Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."* **Romans 5:20-21**
- We who were spiritually bankrupt are now spiritually _____ before God and it's all because of Jesus. 2 Corinthians 8:9

God's grace abounding _____ us.

- When we _____ our resources to God's work, it is a natural response to His grace that has abounded to us. It's proof that His grace is working **in us**. 2 Corinthians 9:13-14

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God's grace abounding _____ us.

- In response to His grace, we have hearts that _____ to give. 2 Corinthians 9:7
- God then abounds back towards us with _____ grace, providing _____ sufficiency in _____ things. 2 Corinthians 9:8
- God's grace is no longer just a Biblical doctrine, it is abounding **through** you. You can _____ it at work in your life as you give cheerfully and bountifully to God.

- The _____ of your giving abounds to your account in heaven.
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