

A Lifestyle That Gives

It's An Issue Of The Heart

We are continuing our journey of "A Lifestyle That Gives"

1. Learning how to give **financially**, how to give **love**, **kindness**, **serving** others, and being a **blessing** to others.

This is my goal today:

- We must realize giving is a **heart** issue.
 - God must do something in our **heart**; He wants to change our **hearts**.
 - We are born **takers** and re-born or born-again **givers**.
2. What I am telling you is we really are givers and we want to give, but even though this is true, God has to do some work in our hearts rooting out some **selfishness**.

Matthew 7:1-2 – see if you know the topic here as I read

Matthew 7:1-2a

"JUDGE not, that you be not JUDGED. ²For with what JUDGEMENT you JUDGE, you will be JUDGED...

The topic is **judging**

Matthew 7:2b

²...and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

This says: If I have a judgmental, critical spirit, that will **come back** to me.

- The **same** measure I dish out will be the **same** measure dished back to me.

Here is my question: In these two verses, was there anything about money?

Answer: **No**, we don't see the word money in these two verses.

So the context is obviously **judging**.

Matthew 5-7 is the Sermon on the Mount

Luke records the Sermon on the Mount and then gives us some details Matthew doesn't give us.

Now – before we read Luke 6, let's remember two phrases from Matthew 7.

- The first phrase – judge not and you won't be **judged**
- The last phrase of verse 2 was – for with the **same** measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

Something is added in Luke 6, but the context is the **same**.

Here is the method to my madness:

Luke 6:37 begins by saying, "Judge not, and you shall not be judged."

Now the last part of verse 38 says, "For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

Again: one more time, "What is the context?"

Answer: judging

Look at Luke 6:37 – now with this in mind:

Luke 6:37

Luke 6:38

Most of the time when a pastor teaches on verse 38, what is he talking about?

He talks about money.

Question: Did you see the word money in verse 38?

Answer: No

The context was judging.

It does say give

- You can give kindness to people
- You can give criticism to people
- You can give love to people

Church – it just says "give"

In Luke 6:38

Give – is the verb or the action

You – is the implied subject

This verse says: you give, it will be given back to you.

3. You give and whatever it is that you **give** is going to be given back to you.

The context of Matthew 7 and Luke 6 is:

- Don't judge and **judgment** won't be given back to you
 - If you judge, **judgment** will be given back to you.
 - If you condemn, **condemnation** will be given back to you.
 - If you forgive, **forgiveness** will be given back to you.
4. A principle in the kingdom of God is you get back **more** than you give.
- If you sow one apple seed, do you get back one apple seed?

Answer: No, you get back a **tree** that has many **apples** and each apple has many **seeds**.

5. God always **multiples** whatever you sow.

Principle of God:

- With God, what you give, you will always be given back **more**!

Luke 6:38

- It is a **great** verse
- It also is a **terrible** verse

* Because it depends on what you **give**.

Judgment can be **given back** to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be put in your bosom.

Now – is it possible you could put money in its context? **Yes**

I don't want us to lose the **fullness** of giving or having a **heart** to give.

Luke 6:30-34

Luke 6:35-38

- When you lend to someone, hope for **nothing** in return.

6. Jesus is saying – just as I gave **before** I would get anything back. You need to give the **same** way.

Jesus is saying to you and me:

- Let me make you a **giver** and not a **taker**.
- Let me make you someone who wants to **give**.

When you lend, your heart is not to get, but to be a giver hoping **nothing** is given back.

Why I don't like the way Luke 6:38 is preached.

It's preached – give and you will **get**.

So people say: man, I want to get, so I have to **give**.

So God is thinking: how wonderful all my people are getting the revelation of **getting**.

So they are all giving. So they can get – **no**

The revelation of Luke 6:38 is:

Give, give, and more giving to really bless **others** and help **others**.

Here is the reward of that heart:

7. God says: If you let Me change your **heart**, and you will be a **giver**, not expecting **anything** in return, I will give back to you good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over.

The reason God gives us more is not because we gave, but because we gave with the **right** heart.