

Living A Blessed Life

Thanks-Giving: An Over And Above Life

- We will talk about being **thankful**.
- In our thankfulness, it moves us to **give** over and above.
 - My passion is not a bigger offering
 - * What I am praying for is that every person will **catch** this revelation.
- 1. My thoughts are that you as a believer will be **delivered** from bondage, strongholds, marriage problems, health issues, and the attacks of the enemy.

Here is the premise of today:

2. When you become thankful and in that place, give over and above, things will **change** in your life.
 - Self is no longer on the **throne**.

True selfishness is saying to God: You can have everything in my life except my **giving**.
3. Some people watching this or listening to us are headed for shipwreck because somehow they continue to **harden** their hearts to this message.

Listen closely: the enemy, his name is Satan, may have built up a stronghold in you regarding this subject.

Bottom line: the devil hates you and does not want you to be a **thankful** giver, especially give to God.

Let God do a work in this area of your life.

1 Chronicles 29:1-2

Furthermore King David said to all the assembly: "My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced; and the work is great, because the temple is not for man but for the Lord God. ²Now for the house of my God I have prepared with all my might: gold for *things to be made of gold*, silver for *things of silver*, bronze for *things of bronze*, iron for *things of iron*, wood for *things of wood*, onyx stones, stones to be set, glistening stones of various colors, all kinds of precious stones, and marble slabs in abundance.

Verse 3 – notice the words:

1 Chronicles 29:3

³Moreover, because I have set my affection on the house of my God, I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, my own special treasure of gold and silver

* David says: I am giving now **over and above** of all that I listed.

Why did He do this? It says (verse 3): "David says "because I have set my affection on the house of my God."

4. If you take what David gave in today's currency, it totals **21 billion** dollars.

Look now near the end of verse 5:

1 Chronicles 29:5b

⁵...Who *then* is willing to consecrate himself this day to the Lord?"

I am asking you to do what David did which is to give to the **house** of God.

1 Chronicles 29:6-9: ⁶Then the leaders of the fathers' houses, leaders of the tribes of Israel, the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officers over the king's work, offered willingly. ⁷They gave for the work of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. ⁸And whoever had *precious* stones gave *them* to the treasury of the house of the Lord, into the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. ⁹Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the Lord; and King David also rejoiced greatly.

- Offered **willingly** is the key

Then David prays and let me show you part of the scripture in the prayer.

1 Chronicles 29:14

¹⁴But who *am* I, and who *are* my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things *come* from You, And of Your own we have given You.

1 Chronicles 29:17-18

¹⁷I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these *things*; and now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here to offer willingly to You. ¹⁸O Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intent of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and fix their heart toward You.

- It goes back to the **heart**.
- As your Pastor, that's where my passion resides – your **heart**.

Here are 2 reasons you must live a lifestyle of kingdom giving:

- A. The work of God needs to go **forward**.
- B. Because you need a change in your **heart**.

Always remember: When God asks you to give, and it's over and above – He is putting you right where He wants you in the area of giving → so you depend on Him in that area or basically with **everything**.

Luke 9:12-14

¹²When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." ¹³But He said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people." ¹⁴For there were about five thousand men. Then He said to His disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of fifty."

- 5,000 men – could be **15-20** thousand

Luke 9:15-17

¹⁵And they did so, and made them all sit down.
¹⁶Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave *them* to the disciples to set before the multitude. ¹⁷So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.

- * I believe this relates – 12 baskets full, 12 tribes of Israel, or today, the **Church**.

What's given back to you after all your needs are met (being full) above and beyond **leftovers**.

Here is the Lord's challenge – so there will be food in my house last week

Luke 9:13

¹³ But He said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people."

- Jesus said: you give them something to eat – they gave **excuse** why they can't.
- This is where God asks us to do something and we look if we really can do it.

Can you imagine what the disciples were thinking – they were thinking like us. What!!

Luke 9:16

¹⁶ Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave *them* to the disciples to set before the multitude.

- Gave the pieces; Jesus blessed and gave to the disciples to give out.
- 5. The miracle did not happen in the Master's hands, it happened in the **disciple's** hands.

It had the potential to multiply – but what if they had eaten it themselves?

Here is the principle of thanks-giving:

A. They gave it to Jesus first to be **blessed**.

6. The first portion is the redemptive portion (the **tithe**) and He blesses the rest.

Pastor, I gave to charities.

No charities in the world have the power to bless the rest → only the **Lord** does.

7. You must give to God first – called the **tithe** – so the other is blessed.

Second principle we need to catch:

B. They gave what was left away which is **over and above** principle.

8. Tithing is not giving, it's **returning** what is God's.

Giving doesn't start till we give **over and above**.