

Three Assumptions

Teaching about Giving

Matthew 6:1-4 (NLT) “Watch out! Don’t do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven. **2** When you give to someone in need, don’t do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. **3** But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. **4** Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

Teaching about Prayer

5 “When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. **6** But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

7 “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. **8** Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! **9** Pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.

10 May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today the food we need,

12 and forgive us our sins,
as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

13 And don’t let us yield to temptation,
but rescue us from the evil one.

14 “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. **15** But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Teaching about Fasting

16 “And when you fast, don’t make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. **17** But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. **18** Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

Three Assumptions

When you give
When you pray
When you fast

When you move from a consumer to an investor

- The consumer says what's in it for me. How can I get the most and give the least.
- The investor says where can I invest and make the biggest difference. How can I serve. How can my investment of time, talent or treasure improve the process or extend it's effectiveness.

- The consumer looks for immediate gratification, the investor looks at long term impact and return.
- The investor is a person of faith, the consumer is not.
- The investor operates in the abundance mindset the consumer operates in the scarcity mindset.

When you move from the scarcity mindset to the abundance mindset

- The Scarcity mindset views everything as a risk
- The Abundance mindset views everything as an opportunity
- The Scarcity mindset hoards
- The Abundance mindset invests
 - What are you intentionally giving away, investing in someone else?

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.”

- John Wesley

“There cannot be a surer rule, nor a stronger exhortation to the observance of it, than when we are taught that all the endowments which we possess are divine deposits entrusted to us for the very purpose of being distributed for the good of our neighbor.”

— John Calvin

- The Scarcity mindset operates on Fear
- The Abundance mindset operates on Faith

Assumed to be Givers

Teaching about Giving

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Poverty Facts

Children under age 18 make up 49 percent of the population of the world’s least developed countries, compared with 21 percent of the population of the world’s industrialized nations.

- **More than 2 billion people lack access to electricity and modern forms of energy.**
- **More than 1 billion (one in five) people live on less than U.S.\$1 a day.**
- **Every day, 1,600 women and more than 10,000 newborns globally die due to complications that could have been prevented.**

- **The annual world economy breaks down like this:**
 - Low Income, \$825 or less: 37%**
 - Lower Middle Income, \$826 to \$3,255: 38%**
 - Upper Middle Income, \$3,256 to \$10,065: 9%**
 - High Income, \$10,066 or more: 16%**

- **Approximately 143 million children in the developing world (one in 13) are orphans.**

- **More than 10 million children under age 5 die each year. Two-thirds of these deaths — more than 6 million deaths every year — are preventable.**

- **Approximately 41 percent of the world’s poor people live in India.**

More than a billion people live on less than one dollar per day.

One out of seven people in the world have no access to clean water.

“I believe with all of my heart that God’s people possess God’s provision to accomplish and fulfill God’s purposes in the world.”

— Joel Vestal

“One man gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.”

— Proverbs 11:24

‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

- Matthew 25:29

Teaching about Money and Possessions

Matthew 6:19-21 (NLT) “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. **20** Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. **21** Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Matthew 6:24 (NLT) “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

- It is important that we do not serve money but money serves us.

He is our provider

25 “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn’t life more than food, and your body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds. They don’t plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren’t you far more valuable to him than they are? **27** Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

28 “And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don’t work or make their clothing, **29** yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. **30** And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

31 “So don’t worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ **32** These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. **33** Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

34 “So don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

2 Corinthians 9:6-13 (NLT) Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. **7** You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” **8** And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

9 As the Scriptures say,

“They share freely and give generously to the poor.

Their good deeds will be remembered forever.”

10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

11 Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. **12** So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God. **13** As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ.

Assumptions

To give