

The Blessed Life: It's All About The Heart

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Read

Matthew 6:21 and Deuteronomy 15:7-15, Acts 20:35, Luke 6:37-38, and Psalm 103:2

Reflect

To grow in generosity, we must start with grateful hearts. Pastor Josh opened his message with a picture of a rainforest, lush and green, full of life. The moisture in that climate produces abundance. Drawing from this illustration, he reminded us that while we are not promised a life free of pain or toil, we can be confident that God has and will always provide for our needs. From this place of confidence and security, we give.

1. I need to deal with a greedy heart.

- a. While we may not all be quick to admit it, apart from God's grace and power, we are all prone to be selfish and tightfisted with our resources. God's Word has much to say about money and the use of our resources but it's not because he needs them. In what areas do you tend to struggle?
- b. In what areas have you grown and seen the abundance that comes from obedience?

2. I need to deal with a grudging heart.

- a. The word "grudging" carries with it, the feeling of giving out of duty with no delight. Share with each other your thoughts and experiences with giving from this place vs. from a place of gratitude.

3. I need to cultivate a generous heart.

- a. Deuteronomy 15:14b says that we should "Give to them as the Lord God has blessed you." By his Spirit we can yield and grow in cultivating this "spiritual muscle." How can you as a group encourage each other in strengthening this muscle?

4. I need to cultivate a grateful heart.

- a. As a group, highlight three things you are thankful for and why.

RESPOND

God is the giver of all good things. He gave us life by sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and he freely has given us all things to enjoy. Take time this week to thank God for all he has done and share with each other how you would like to cultivate a heart of generosity.