



GIVING

FASTING 2025

During a men's camp we learned an invaluable lesson about the act of giving. Upon arriving at the camp, we discovered a slight miscalculation: we had organized 90 men into 10 groups (9 men per group), however there were actually 99 men in total. Ten food parcels, made for 10 men per group, was meant to prepare food for 100 men. The logistics team had travelled a couple of days prior to prepare the site, which meant there were 11 groups with 9 men in each group. Due to the calculation error, one package of food had been delivered to each group, except to the logistics team.


Everyone was confused and embarrassed by the error until we found a simple solution that reflected a profound biblical principle: each group would share 10% of their food with ours, illustrating the true meaning and power of tithing. This action not only solved the practical problem of lack of food, but also showed us the essence of giving in the Christian faith: sharing what we have for the benefit of all. There was enough food for all 99 men, and there were even leftovers. We left not only physically fed, but spiritually enriched. We learned that giving is a transformative act that brings us closer to the life Jesus calls us to live: a life of service, sacrifice, and love for our neighbours.

Keys to the Act of Giving:

1. Living for others

- »Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me."
- [Matthew 16:24 NLT](#)

Jesus calls us to put aside selfishness and take up our cross to follow Him. Life in Christ means not living for ourselves, but building His community. Giving is an act of sacrifice that reflects our surrender of a life centered on the "I" and a commitment to the "we." Everything we receive is not for our benefit, but for the collective good. As a result, we too benefit.



2. Multiply what you received

- “But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate, why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.’
- Matthew 25:26-27 NLT

The parable of the three servants teaches that God entrusts us with resources and talents, with the expectation that we will multiply them. It is not enough to simply preserve what we have; we must invest it and expand it in service to others. Giving is a recognition that what we have received is meant to bear fruit and benefit our neighbours.

3. Faithfulness in the little things

- The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’
- Matthew 25:21 NLT

The Lord tests us in the little things before entrusting us with more. By demonstrating faithfulness in the little things God gives us, we show that we are prepared to receive and steward more.

4. Tests of trust

- Remember how the Lord your God led you through the wilderness for these forty years, humbling you and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would obey his commands.
- Deuteronomy 8:2 NLT

Tests and trials reveal our character. Difficult situations are opportunities to demonstrate our trust in God. Giving, even in times of scarcity, shows that we do not depend on our own strength but on His provision.



5. Humility and gratitude

- For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful! Do not become proud at that time and forget the Lord your God, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt.
- Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful, in order to fulfill the covenant he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath.
- Deuteronomy 8:12-14,18 NLT

Let us remember that material and spiritual blessings come from God. In times of prosperity, it is easy to forget who we have to thank. Giving is an act of recognition and humility, a way of remembering that everything we have is a gift from God.

6. Give to receive

- Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything.
- Proverbs 11:24 NLT

Generosity brings abundance. Blessings materialize not because we give from what we have left, but because in giving, we show an open heart that is willing to receive more in order to give more.

7. Perseverance in faith

- So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.
- Galatians 6:9 NLT

Giving should be a constant and permanent part of our lifestyle, not an isolated act. Persistence in doing good produces abundant harvests over time, not just instantaneous results.

Practical application

Try to find ways to give regularly, not only material resources but also with your time and talents. Recognize everyday opportunities to bless others, and do so with joy and generosity.

Reflection Question

How can you integrate the principle of giving into your daily life, and how does this affect your understanding of God's provision and abundance?