

Living the Jesus Paradoxes: 'Giving is Gaining'

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."
(Luke 6:37,38)

What is Jesus saying about us?

- ▶ We are meant to be rivers, not reservoirs

- ▶ Our outflow will affect our inflow

⁵Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. (Psalm 112:5)

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. (II Corinthians 9:6)

⁹Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.
(Galatians 6:9,10)

- ▶ A **_scarcity_** mentality will seriously **_limit_** us

⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸**And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.**

... ¹¹**You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. (II Corinthians 9:7-8,11)**

Two of the hardest areas . . .

- **_Finances_ -- give to **_give_** more**

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- **_Forgiveness_ -- give to be **_free_****

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⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (II Corinthians 8:9)