



Pastor Sam Devine
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Matter Of The Heart

When the love of God fills your heart you are released to give in ways that are not humanly possible otherwise.

📖 Acts 20:22-24 & 32-35

“...it is more blessed to give than to receive.” v35

We are made in the image of God to be givers because that is who God is.

It is more blessed to give than to receive because our hearts are changed by God’s grace.

“...My only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.” v24

For Paul, this wasn’t about propagating an abstract religion; this was about testifying to the grace shown to him by a personal Saviour.

Our mission is to generously show and share how God’s extravagant grace has brought us forgiveness and life.

It is more blessed to give than to receive because our hearts are freed to focus on what is most important in life.

“I consider my life worth nothing to me, my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.” v24

God’s grace never, ever, runs out. He wants to fill us every day afresh with His life and His strength. He wants to free us to focus on what is most important in life.

What is important is your soul and the souls of others. What is important is testifying to the good news of God’s grace in our lives.

It is more blessed to give than to receive because our hearts are satisfied with what Christ has won for us.

“I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance.” v32

We need to seek God as the source of our strength every day. We need to read and apply His word to feed our souls.

We have been sealed by the Holy Spirit. We have eternal life. We have the Kingdom. We have the reward of our heavenly Father. So, we can give generously.

“I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing.” v33

It is hard to covet and to be generous at the same time.

It is a discipline to choose to be satisfied with Christ and with His gifts. It means that we can become generous people who focus more on giving than getting.

It is more blessed to give than to receive because our hearts are delighted to see God bless and strengthen others through us.

“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak.” v35

We are called to do whatever it takes to see God bless and strengthen others through our lives.

It is nice to have a nice home but it is vital to have a heart that is open for God’s blessing to flow to others.

It will never just happen one day. It will happen when you choose by God’s grace to give out of the overflow of God’s generosity.

- Use your home as a blessing to encourage others.
- Pray about supporting a child through Compassion.
- Pray about giving to God’s work through the mission of this Church.

You can be a conduit for God’s blessing or a constriction. It is more blessed to give than to receive. You will be blessed. Always.