

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Would you describe yourself as generous? What are your challenges in living generously?
- How do you/can you live more generously?
- What are some habits and attitudes that you need to change in order to develop a more generous heart?

PRAYER

- Ask God to give you the heart of giving generously so that you may become a channel of blessing to others.
- Ask God to transform your habits, attitudes, and mindset into one of generous giving.
- Pray that God will give you the faith to believe that he will provide and bless you as you give.

NOTES



© 2014 Every Nation NYC

Printing of this connect group material is granted for church use only.
This material is not for sale. Visit www.ennc.org



WEEK 6: THE MYSTERY OF MONEY

CONNECT

- Have you ever given something for a cause? What motivated you to help?
- Was there a time when your needs were met by someone's generosity? How did this experience affect you?
- Share a memorable act of generosity that you've witnessed? Were you motivated to also be generous?

WHAT

It is God's loving character to provide for us. He is the kind of God who wants to give us more than we could ever ask for. Our wealth cannot define us and give us purpose. Instead, God gives us provision based on the purposes he has for us. Jesus teaches us that our wealth should be used in ways that yield eternal dividends, not just temporary results. He wants us to generously invest and bless others through what we have. The more we cheerfully give, the more God blesses us in return.



“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)

1. Giving honors God.

“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;”

Proverbs 3:9

When we come into a relationship with God, he reveals himself to be faithful in every area of our lives including our finances. God wants us to honor him through the act of giving faithfully the best and first of what we have. Our giving back is not only an act of worship, but it is also an act of trust and faith in the Lord. Would you say that the way you handle your finances honors God? What are some ways you are honoring him or dishonoring God?

2. Giving is a test of the heart.

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7

Where we focus and spend our money most tells us what we prioritize first in our lives (Matthew 6:21). God does not compel or force us to give him the best of what we have. God loves it when we give cheerfully whether in plenty or in want because our hearts display our faith and full trust in his character. Our wealth is not what matters most to God, but rather our hearts are of utmost importance to him. When God blesses us with what we have, he also wants us to have the heart to be able to believe for more. What kind of heart does your giving reflect? How much do you trust God’s character to provide for your needs?

3. Giving results in blessing and provision.

“then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”

Proverbs 3:10

Our faithfulness in setting apart our best for the Lord and giving generously to others does not only please him, but also puts us in a position to receive more from him. If we trust him in giving faithfully, even in times when we only have a little, he promises us an overflow of blessings. When we set the best portion of our wealth aside for God, he promises that he will also open up the floodgates of heaven so that we may be able to live blessed lives (Malachi 3:10). Even secular research has shown that giving money away leads to financial health. Why do you think this is true?
