



STUDY GUIDE

Misused Stories in the Bible: Giving...Seriously!?

WEEK OF March 4, 2018

Acts 2, Matthew 6

CONNECT

1. During what time in your life were you most in need of help from other people? Who helped you out during that situation and what was your relationship with that person like?
2. When have you been most helpful to a friend in need and what was the end result of you lending a helping hand?

GROW

3. Read Acts 2:44-45. How can this passage be misused when it comes to giving?

4. Read Matthew 6:19-24. What key points on money and generosity does Jesus make in this passage? What does it look like to store up treasures on earth instead of treasures in heaven and how does a consumer mindset affect giving?
5. From this passage, what is the natural outcome of a heart that truly belongs to Christ? Why is it critical that we understand we can't serve both God and money?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-7. What words in these verses describe the attitude about giving that God will honor and attitudes God will not honor? Which words best describe the giving culture of our church? Explain your answers.
7. How does your attitude affect your giving? What is the result of giving reluctantly or giving because someone compelled you to do so?
8. What if you don't feel cheerful about giving, does Paul mean you should then not give? How is it possible for a person to become cheerful about giving?

9. Read Matthew 6:28-32. What reasons for not worrying do you take away from these verses? What is main problem with worry in the life of a Christian?
10. Trusting God with everything is easier said than done. What spiritual disciplines have you found helpful for fighting worry?
11. Read Mathew 6:33-34. Practically speaking, what does it mean to “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness”? How have you seen Jesus’ statement in verse 33 proven true in your life?

GO

12. What action steps do you need to take in order to grow in the area of generous and cheerful giving?
13. The early church sacrificed their possessions to bless one another and point people to Christ. How might you sacrifice your time, money, and energy to serve others this week?