

Why Giving is Such a Big Deal

From time to time churches get criticized for talking too much about money. Statistics and research have proven that churches actually don't talk that much about money, not nearly as much as some think. One sermon a year on giving is one too many for most people.

If you are in that category you would have struggled listening to the preaching and teaching of Jesus. Jesus talked more about money than any other subject. Consider that the New Testament has about...

- 500 verses on faith
- 500 verses on prayer
- Over 1,000 verses on giving
- 19 of Jesus 38 parables deal with giving
- 1/10 of the book of Matthew deals with stewardship and giving!

Why is it that the Bible talks so much about money and giving? In part the answer is because money has so much power upon our lives. Jesus said in Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Jesus recognized that money battles for your heart.

One way we can win this struggle is by living a generous life. We weekly take up an offering here. Sure it helps us pay our bills and continue our ministry. It also helps you. It gives you an opportunity to establish who you serve and who will be in control of your heart. Giving is the best way to set you free from the entanglements of the world.

As our ushers come forward for our offering prayerfully consider what your gift will be. If giving is difficult it could be a sign of conflict within your heart. The way to loosen up the grip money has upon us is to give it away. As crazy as that might sound it is the path to real freedom and peace. Make a gift today and see what a difference it can make in your life.