



Come to Jesus (Part 2) Blessed To Be A Blessing Pastor Ryan Bunbury April 14, 2024

SERIES TEXT: “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? COME TO ME. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” - Jesus, Matthew 11:28-30 MSG

SERIES BIG IDEA: Come to Jesus.

You can draw a brighter picture of the nature and character of God and help Seattle better understand what He is like by simply using what’s in your hands to bless others: Your time, talent, and treasure.

Generous hands are blessed hands because they give bread to the poor. Proverbs 22:9

FIVE WAYS YOU ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (NLT)

(6) Remember this – a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants GENEROUSLY will get a GENEROUS crop.

(7) You must each make up your own mind as to how much you should GIVE. Don’t GIVE reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who GIVES CHEERFULLY.

(8) And God will GENEROUSLY provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to SHARE WITH OTHERS.

(9) As the Scriptures say, “Godly people GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE POOR. Their GOOD DEEDS will never be forgotten.”

(10) For God is the one who gives seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will give you many opportunities to do good, and he will produce a great harvest of GENEROSITY in *you*.

(11) Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can GIVE EVEN MORE GENEROUSLY. And when we take your GIFTS to those who need them, they will break out in thanksgiving to God.

(12) So two good things will happen – the needs of the Christians in Jerusalem will be met, and they will JOYFULLY express their thanksgiving to God.

(13) You will be glorifying God through your GENEROUS GIFTS. For your GENEROSITY to them will prove that you are obedient to THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST.

(14) And they will pray for you with deep affection because of THE WONDERFUL GRACE GOD SHOWN THROUGH YOU.

(15) THANK GOD FOR HIS SON – A GIFT too wonderful for words!

I. GIVING IS THE BEST INVESTMENT YOU CAN MAKE

- Remember this – a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants GENEROUSLY will get a GENEROUS crop. (v. 6)
- *Blessed To Be a Blessing 101:* What you give to Jesus He multiplies – Your time, talents, and resources.
- Who can I plant a Jesus seed in this week? _____

II. GIVING SHOULD BE FUN

- “God loves a person who GIVES CHEERFULLY.” (v. 7)
- The Greek word for cheerful is *hilaros*.
- *Blessed To Be a Blessing 101:* Jesus loves it when our giving is hilarious and fun. So, “Let giving flow from your heart... Let it spring up from the joy of giving – all because God loves HILARIOUS GENEROSITY!” (TPT)

“My car is the Jesus express and anyone can ride in it to help them find and follow Jesus!” - Evie Marwood

III. **GIVING TAKES AWAY THE BURDEN OF FINANCIAL WORRY**

- And God will GENEROUSLY provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to SHARE WITH OTHERS. (v. 8)
- *Blessed To Be a Blessing 101*: Giving doesn't mean handing over your financial responsibility to God. It does mean handing over your worries.
- "Ryan: Raise your standard of giving rather than your standard of living." - Jesus
- What financial concern can I give to God by turning it into prayer? _____

IV. **GIVING ENRICHES YOU**

- Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can GIVE EVEN MORE GENEROUSLY. And when we take your GIFTS to those who need them, they will break out in thanksgiving to God. (v. 11)
- *Blessed To Be a Blessing 101*: Materially, you will have enough to give generously. **Trade your stressing for His blessing** and Praise The Lord!

V. **GIVING TRANSFORMS YOUR CHARACTER**

- *Blessed To Be a Blessing 101*: Giving purges your character from the constricting grip of self-centeredness'.
- For God is the one who gives seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will give you many opportunities to DO GOOD, and he will produce a great harvest of GENEROSITY in you. (v. 10)
- Generous hands are blessed hands because they give bread to the poor. Proverbs 22:9 MSG
- What is something good you can do for someone this week with your time?

- What is something good you can do for someone this week with your talent?

- What is something good you can do for someone this week with your treasure?

Salvation Prayer:

Dear Jesus, I repent of my sin. Please be my Savior and Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen

