**Giving Habits**

*Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a god measure- pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return Lk. 6:38*

1. ***The Giving habits of Jesus***
2. He fed the multitudes

*He took seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke them and started giving them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people Matt. 15:36*

1. He used His time wisely as a good steward of God’s call on His life

Jesus answered, the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified John 12:23

1. He gave his time to the multitudes & to his disciples

*when evening came, after the sun had set, they began bringing to Him all who were ill and those who were demon – possessed…and He healed many who were ill with various diseases and cast out many demons Mk. 1:32 - 34*

1. He gave at the temple according to the Law of God
2. He gave His life on the cross for the sins of the world

*Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many Matt. 20:28*

1. He gave spiritual gifts to His followers

*But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift Eph.4:7*

1. He gives eternal life to whoever believes in Him

*I give eternal life to them, they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand John 10:38*

1. **The Giving habits of believers**
2. Believers must freely give: time, money & abilities to others

*Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back Lk. 6:30*

1. Believers must freely give their time to do the will of God

*Redeeming the time, because the days are evil Eph. 5:16*

*Watch and pray lest you enter into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak Mark 14:38*

1. Believers must freely give their time to serve the needs of others

*Our people must learn to engage in good deeds to meet the pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful Tit. 3:14*

1. Believers must freely use their spiritual gifts to bless others

*As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God 1 Pet. 4:10*

1. Believers must freely give their finances & possessions for the work of the gospel

*So those who had received his word were baptized, and that day there were added about three thousand souls. They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Every kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Acts. 2:41 – 4*

*Now, brethren we wish to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality 2 Cor. 8: 1 – 2*

1. **Things to Remember about Giving**
2. *It is more blessed to give than to receive – Acts. 20:35*
3. *God’s grace is at work in those who give - 2 Cor. 9:14*
4. *God blesses those who generously give of their time, giftedness & possessions 2 Cor. 9:11*
5. *God loves a cheerful giver – 2 Cor. 9:7*

**Stewardship – Baptist Faith & Message – 2000**

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual **debtorship** to the whole world, a holy **trusteeship** in the gospel, and a binding **stewardship** in their possessions. They are therefore **under obligation** to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer’s cause on earth.

**Take My Life and Let it Be – Francis Havergal**

Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee,  
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips, and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee,  
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect, and use  
Every power as Thou shalt choose,  
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;  
It shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart; it is Thine own;  
It shall be Thy royal throne,  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee,  
Ever, only, all for Thee.