

March 16, 2014
What Is Generosity?
Part 3
Ecclesiastes 5 & 6

Introduction:

Question of the hour at Clements - Do you like to give?

Pastor Tim:

Throughout my twenty years of being pastor of Clements - these are arguable the greatest days of Spirit filled giving and generosity I have ever sensed in our church. There is simply a fresh wind of God's grace upon our campus in the area of Godly gratitude.

A Working Definition of Generosity:

Generosity is at its core a lifestyle, a lifestyle in which we share all that we have, are, and ever will become as a demonstration of God's love and a response to God's grace.

Pastor Tim:

Before we can be generous, we must understand what it means to be a steward, recognizing that what we have is not ours to own and confessing that Jesus is Lord over our money, possessions, positions of authority, and talents. You can't be generous without the discipline of biblical stewardship, and biblical stewardship demands generosity.

Generosity Principal:

Ownership begins with the thesis that anything you own, you don't really own, because it is the property of another.

C.S. Lewis:

"Our Father refreshes us on the journey with some pleasant Inns, but will not encourage us to mistake them for home. Too many of us spend our lives mistaking these temporary residences for our true home. But our home is in another place—and each day we are closer to it."

Three Life Statements Wrapped Around Generosity:

1. I desire for my time to count for the kingdom.
2. I desire for my talents to count for the kingdom.
3. I desire for my treasures to count for the kingdom.

Pastor Tim:

Generous people are happy people. I feel that I enjoy life more because I am living my life for Jesus and I find it a pure joy to serve the body of Christ. That's why I go overseas, as well as across the street. The Great Commission was never intended to be selective.