

Our God is a generous Lord 神是慷慨的主

John 3:16 約翰福音 "For God so loved the world, that He gave..." (NASB)

「神是那麼<mark>愛</mark>世人,甚至<mark>賜</mark>下…」(新漢語譯本)

You can give without love, you cannot love with give! 你可以付出卻沒有愛,但你不能去愛而沒有付出

Two things about being generous 要活出一個慷慨生命,有兩件事必須知道

1. We are not born generous 我們都不是生來就是慷慨

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 You must have a plan for being generous 你必須有計劃地實踐慷慨

2. There is a master difference between giving and being generous 施予與慷慨之間有一個根本的區別

Jesus values our offerings 耶穌看重我們的奉獻

"⁴¹And Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and began watching how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large amounts. ⁴²And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a penny. ⁴³Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, 'Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; ⁴⁴for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on.'" (Mark 12:41-44, NASB2020)

「4¹耶穌面向聖殿銀庫坐著,看眾人怎樣把錢投入銀庫。有好些財主投了許多錢。4²有一個窮 寡婦來,投了兩個小文錢,就是一個大文錢。⁴³耶穌叫門徒來,對他們說:「我實在告訴你們, 這窮寡婦投入銀庫裏的比眾人所投的更多。⁴⁴因為,眾人都是拿有餘的捐獻,但這寡婦,雖然 自己不足,卻把她一生所有的全都投進去了。」

(可12:41-44,和合本修訂版)

The most important thing about generosity is not what you give, it's about who you become by being generous 有關慷慨最重要的不是你付出了甚麼, 而是活出慷慨的生命叫你成為了怎麼樣的人

1. Generosity Brings Us Joy and Abundance 慷慨為我們帶來喜樂富足

It is more blessed to give than to receive... 施比受更有福

2. Generosity Builds Our Trust and Love for God 慷慨建立我們倚靠和愛神的心

- Tithing is not the end point but just the basic of practicing generosity 十一 奉獻不是實踐慷慨的唯一目標, 卻是起步點和最基本的。
- "⁷Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving. ⁸I am not commanding you to do this.
 But I am testing how genuine your love is by comparing it with the eagerness of the other churches. (NLV)

「⁷既然你們在信心、口才、知識、熱忱這諸多方面都勝過他人,又得到我們更多的愛,我希望你們在這捐獻的善舉上也能**勝過他人**。⁸我並不是命令你們這樣做, 我只是把你們的愛心跟其他教會的熱忱作比較,**看看你們的愛心有多真誠**。」 新普及譯本

2 Corinthians 8:7-8 哥林多後書

3. Generosity is a Willing Response to God's Grace 慷慨是對上帝恩典甘心樂意的回應

"But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, 'Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.'" (John 12:4-5, NIV)

「4*有一個門徒,就是那將要出賣耶穌的加略人猶大,說:⁵「為甚麼不把這香膏賣三百個 銀幣去賙濟窮人呢*?」(約翰福音12:4-5,和合本修訂版)

Jesus's responses to this woman:

"Why are you bothering this woman? She has done **a beautiful thing** to me...Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her." (Matthew 26:10,13, NIV)

「*耶穌看出他們的意思,就說:「為甚麼難為這女人呢?她在我身上做的是一件美事…我 實在告訴你們, 普天之下, 無論在甚麼地方傳這福音, 都要述說這女人所做的, 來記念 她。*」(馬太福音26:10,13, 和合本修訂版)

太原醫院賜大夫



1851 —1883



R. Harold A. Schofield

3. Generosity is a Willing Response to God's Grace 慷慨是對上帝恩典甘心樂意的回應

Do you have a grateful heart to see that everything you have in life is a gift from God? Even if others think you are wasting it, you still practice generosity unreservedly, like that woman, in response to all that God has done for you.

你又是否有一顆感恩的心,去看見生命中你所有擁有的一切都是神比 你的禮物,所以即使別人覺得你是浪費,但你依然像那女人毫不保留 地去實踐慷慨施予,去回應上帝在你身上所作的一切。

4. Generosity Cultivates our Eternal Perspective 慷慨建立我們永恆的視野

"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

(Matthew 6:2-4, ESV)

「*所以,你施捨的時候,不要大吹大擂,好像那些偽君子在會堂裏和街上所做的,他們是要 博取人的讚賞。我實在告訴你們,他們已得到他們的獎賞了。你施捨的時候,右手所做的, 不要讓左手知道,好讓你在隱密中施捨;這樣,你父在隱密中察看,必定獎賞你。」*

(新漢語譯本, 馬太福音 6:2-4)

4. Generosity Cultivates our Eternal Perspective 慷慨建立我們永恆的視野

Are you willing to take some of your money/talents/time/energy to build bridges of friendship to bring people to Jesus Christ who are then going to be saved and they are going to the heaven with you.

你又是否願意獻上你的金錢、才能、時間、精力來與人建立友誼的橋樑, 把人帶到耶穌基督面前,讓他們得救,並與你一同進入天堂?

劍橋七傑 THE CAMBRIDGE SEVEN





- 1. Generosity brings us joy and abundance
 - 慷慨為我們帶來喜樂富足
- 2. Generosity strengthens our dependence on and love for God 慷慨建立我們倚靠和愛神的心
- Generosity is our willing response to God's grace 慷慨是對上帝恩典甘心樂意的回應
- 4. Generosity gives us an eternal perspective
 - 慷慨建立我們永恆的視野

Take away questions 反思問題

 Do you consider yourself a generous person? If not, would you set goals and even plan to live a life of tangible generosity?
 你認為你自己是一個慷慨的人嗎? 假若不是,你會訂下甚麼計劃讓自 己實踐慷慨生活?

2. Have you experienced God's unchanging faithfulness and provision because of your generosity? 你又曾否因着你慷慨的擺 上而經歷上帝是信實不變和供應的主?

3.1s there anything which hold you back from living your life with generosity that God shows us? 有什麼事情阻礙你實踐慷慨生活?

I dreamed I went to heaven And you were there with me We walked upon the streets of gold Beside the crystal sea

We heard the angels singing Then someone called your name You turned and saw this young man He was smiling as he came

And he said, 'Friend, you may not know me now, Then he said, 'But wait, you used to teach my Sunday school, when I was only eight

And every week you would say a prayer Before the class would start And one day you said that prayer I asked Jesus in my heart.

Thank you for giving to the lord, I am a life that was changed. Thank you for giving in the lord, I am so glad you gave.

Then another man stood before you He said, 'Remember the time A missionary came to your church his pictures made you cry

You didn't have much money, But you gave it anyway, Jesus took the gift you gave, That's why I'm here today.

Thank you for giving to the lord, I am a life that was changed. Thank you for giving in the lord, I am so glad you gave.

One by one they came, Far as your eye could see, Each life somehow touched, By your generosity.

- Little things that you had done
- Sacrifices made,
- **Unnoticed on the earth**
- In Heaven now proclaimed

I know that I'm up in heaven, You're not supposed to cry, But I'm almost sure, there were tears in your eyes.

As Jesus took your hand, You stood before the Lord, He said, 'My child look around you, for great is your award!

Thank you for giving to the lord, I am a life that was changed. Thank you for giving in the lord, I am so glad you gave.

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