THE PRINCIPLE OF GENEROSITY

The New Testament Challenge - Part 3

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**Acts 20:35 (NLT)**
And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF LIVING IS **Generous Living.**

Generous Living Means Being...

* Generous with my **Time.**

**Luke 10:33-37 (NLT)**
“Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him.
 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’  “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

**1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT)**
So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever wasted.

* Generous with my **Talents.**

**Ephesians 2:10 (NCV)**
God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.

**1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT)**
A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church.

* Generous with my **Treasure.**

**Matthew 23:23 (NLT)**
“What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.

**Matthew 6:19-21 (NLT)**
 “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

* Generous with my **Testimony.**

**Acts 26:16 (TLB)**
Now stand up! For I have appeared to you to appoint you as my servant and my witness. You are to tell the world about this experience and about the many other occasions when I shall appear to you.

**Philemon 1:6 (NLT)**
And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.