

A Disciple Gives

MATTHEW 6:19-24

"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

I. A disciple gives to invest in things that will _____ .

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." vv. 19-21

A disciple is a _____ heading home.

II. A disciple gives to break the grip of _____ .

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." v. 24

A disciple is a _____ content with God's provision.

III. A disciple gives to extend God's _____ .

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:16-18

A disciple is a _____ of God's gifts.

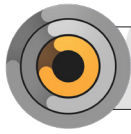
A DISCIPLE GIVES

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Give _____ .

Give _____ .

Give _____ .



Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. What cultural and personal factors contribute to the difficulty of managing money? Why is so important for a disciple of Jesus to be different from the culture in this area?

2. Read Matthew 6:19-24. How do we discern what our treasure is? What treasures must you guard your heart against idolizing?

3. Read Matthew 6:25-34. What causes you anxiety, and how do Jesus' words give the solution?

4. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10. By craving, "some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." What kinds of *pangs* (sorrows, NLT; griefs, NIV) is Jesus talking about, and why do they occur?

5. What do you tend to crave? How contentedly would you say you are living now, and how can you guard your heart against craving more?

6. How should we strive to give faithfully, joyfully and sacrificially? Why are these attitudes crucial in giving?

7. What does it mean to "lay up treasures in heaven"? What are some primary ways can you aim to store up treasures in heaven?

8. How does Christ's command to not accumulate riches (Matt 6:19) apply towards investing for retirement (1 Tim 5:8)? How do we balance the principle of not storing up and yet take care of our family and their future?

9. Why is the discipline of simple living so important for a disciple of Jesus? What specific steps are you willing to take to implement needed changes in how you live so you can be obedient to God in giving?

"God owns everything you own. In 1 Corinthians 10:26, the apostle Paul quoted Psalm 24:1, which reads, 'The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.' God owns everything, including everything you possess, because He created everything. God wants us to use and enjoy the things He permits us to have, but as stewards of them we must remember they all belong to Him and should be used for His kingdom. So the question is not, 'How much of my money should I give to God?' but rather, 'How much of God's money should I keep for now?'"

DONALD WHITNEY

"For us to have committed hearts that handle money well, we must be shaped by the truth. Because of our sinful flesh, which tempts us to disobey, we are not naturally inclined to do what is right. Instead, obedience is the byproduct of changed hearts. Proverbs 4:23 says, 'Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life' (ESV). Simply put, we do what we do because of our hearts—our hearts determine our actions. ... More wisdom is required with finances than most parts of the Christian life; therefore, managing money involves more than mere self-control and discipline. For example, we're to save money, but not hoard it for ourselves. We must spend money on bills, food, clothing and other necessities, but we must use discretion to avoid trivial purchases. We must make large purchases, such as homes and vehicles, while pursuing Christian modesty and avoiding extravagance. We're commanded to give, but not at every opportunity that presents itself. We need wisdom to know when and how to spend, give and save. ... To put it simply, at the end of our lives, our sins will not be judged, but our stewardships will. If we've been faithful, we will be rewarded. Keeping this in mind encourages us to be faithful stewards of our finances."

SCOTT LAPIERRE

RESOURCES ON GIVING

How to Manage Your Money: An In-Depth Bible Study On Personal Finances and The Family Budget Workbook by Larry Burkett
Your Finances God's Way: A Biblical Guide to Making the Best Use of Your Money by Scott LaPierre

Managing God's Money: A Biblical Guide and The Treasure Principle: Unlocking the Secret of Joyful Giving by Randy Alcorn

The Genius of Generosity: Generous Living Is Joyful Living by Chip Ingram
Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope that Matters by Timothy Keller

ON SIMPLE LIVING

Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

DAY OF PRAYER: PRAY FOR OUR NATION

As we continue to pray for the upcoming election, we want to set aside time for our church family to collectively pray for our nation. On Monday, Nov. 4, we'll set aside time in the Oak Room for prayer. We look forward to being together and focusing on God's goodness to us! Learn more details at www.ccbcfamily.org/dop.

NAVIGATING FAITH AND POLITICS IN THE VOTING BOOTH

We're disciples of Jesus who belong to His unending Kingdom, and we're also citizens of this nation. How do those two realities work together? Join us today at 3:30 p.m. in the Oak Room to hear an answer to that question from Dallas Theological Seminary's Dr. Bock! We'll gain insights on our nation's founding principles and practical responses to the current social and political climate. Learn details at www.ccbcfamily.org/dts.

BE A DISCIPLE IN KIDS MINISTRY

We're grateful to have so many kids be a part of our church family across all the campuses, and this fall we invite you to take part in shepherding by sharing the gospel with them on Sundays. One hour in Kids Ministry singing songs, teaching Bible stories and being a constant presence of God's people, could change their lives forever, and into eternity. Learn more by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/kids.

HOW HAS GOD SHAPED YOU FOR SERVICE?

Many of you already serve generously with your time and talents, which allows our church family to BE, MAKE and REACH in various ways! Others may be looking for great ways to serve. For the next few weeks, we're asking everyone in our church family to reflect on how God has gifted you to serve — and share your opinions on how our church can grow in this area. Please fill out your Shape Summary at www.ccbcfamily.org/shape or by visiting the CCBC app by Nov. 15!

GRIEFSHARE - SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

When you're grieving a loved one, it's not unusual to wish you could skip over the whole holiday season. There's a lot to navigate and that's why we want to help. By joining in on Surviving the Holidays, you'll gain practical wisdom and advice as we talk about what to do with favorite traditions and memories, how to handle various emotions and where to find real hope in this season. Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/sth to sign up!



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.