

THE GENEROUS LIFE



PART 8: The Recipient of Generosity | Sunday, July 3, 2016

THE POWER OF PRIDE

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

PRIDE: 1) A high or inordinate opinion of one's own dignity, importance, merit, or superiority, whether as cherished in the mind or as displayed in bearing, conduct, etc. 2) Pride is a conceited sense of one's superiority. To be arrogant, haughty or swelling. 3) It is deception. It believes something about yourself that isn't true. 4) Pride exalts "Me, Self, and I" above all others.

Matthew 23:12 For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

HOW TO RECEIVE GENEROSITY

1. We _____ accept the gift.

HUMILITY: 1) the quality or state of not thinking you are better than other people 2) The ability to receive what you don't deserve. 3) A state of deflated pride.

❖ Humility _____ me to receive God's blessings.

James 4:6b God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

❖ Humility teaches me to _____ what I don't deserve from _____.

Matthew 18:2-5 He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. 3 And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

1 John 4:20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

1 John 4:20 Generosity Version
Whoever claims to receive God's blessings, yet is too prideful to receive from a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not receive from their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot receive from God, whom they have not seen.

❖ "When you don't allow me to give you are _____ my blessing"

2. We express _____ and faith.

2 Corinthians 9:12-13 This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

3. We _____ for God's _____ on their life.

2 Corinthians 9:14-15 And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. 15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

4. We pay it _____.

Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

**All scriptures are from the NIV translation unless otherwise noted.*