

The Giving Series Week 2: Giving Gives Back Daily Devotions

Day 1

The devotion today is taken from Luke 22:14-20

One of the greatest examples of giving has to be from Jesus. As Easter is around the corner, I felt that God wanted me to speak about this.

Here's something to think about; in order to properly give, you have to sacrifice something of value to you. Whether it may be money, time or anything else you can think of. Jesus gave up his life for us.

I know that we have heard this story about a hundred times but it is important to go back and reflect and learn new things from this sad yet wonderful set of events. When Jesus said, "take this and divide it among you." (with the holy communion) He was talking about us taking his sacrifice of love and mercy for us and sharing it with others.

He asks us not to be selfish with the news of his love ❤️ and mercy. Kind of like how he managed to multiply and feed many with just two fish and five loaves of bread. Remember how there were baskets full of left overs. His love and mercy is abundant. At first I wondered why Jesus didn't just multiply the wine or just have everyone know about his love 💕 and mercy at once. But then I realized that it wouldn't be as personal or intimate if it were to happen that way.

We wouldn't need to show people God's love because they would already know about it. Thus people would not really understand how deep and how great his blood really runs. 🌈

So let's pray 🙏🌸 Dear God, Please may you help us realise how great your sacrifice was for us but also help us realise how great your love is for us and that you were and still would be willing to give up a life in order to win many.
Amen 🙏

Day 2

Good morning 🐣🐣🐣🐣🐣🐣 children of the greatest giver God ❤️🔥🔥🔥🔥🔥🔥🔥🔥 My name is Tshegofatso MOATSHE #T-smooth (long story 🤔🤔🤔🔥) Myself and Ebenezer 🌸
Will be doing the devotions for this week and we will be alternating 🐵🐵🐵
Tonight will be my turn and the topic will be Giving gives back 😊

So this morning 🌅🌞

I was wondering if u guys can answer two questions to think 🗣️ about during 🕒 the day

And prepare for the devotions ahead 🧡

1. Describe Giving in three words without using the word giving
2. If Giving does give back how do we give with the right motive

Question 2 🙌 I will need contribution from the adults 👴👵 too because I'm wondering the same thing and do not know the answer 🤔🙏

The Three worded 😊 description for giving I would say 🙏♂ is "Sacrificing whole heartedly" 😊

All your answers were right ❤️💙 , but this is the part I will be focusing on tonight 🌙

The scripture I will focus on tonight is:

Psalm 37:4 "Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your hearts desires"

This scripture tells us to "take delight" ✨ in God basically to 🌈 acknowledge him and the gifts that he gave to us. It further says we should thank 🙌 him and in return he will give us what we pray for — if you pray according to his will.

As human 👤 - beings, naturally we always want things and most of them are materialistic 😞, but when it comes to giving it is a different story. 📖 Giving is not just about giving money 💰 it also about giving time ⌚, and giving him the thanks that he deserves.

I personally can relate because I get a weekly allowance 💵 on a Friday and the first thing that comes to my mind is "what can I afford with this money?" instead of "how can I bless someone with this money?" The same thing goes with my time.

Neo/#Chief 👁️ said something very true and deep that made me think , he said 🙌 "Giving does not only give back to us". Which means that by giving tithes and offering or time we are indirectly giving to the unfortunate and poor. Thus when I put that money in the basket 🛒 it makes me feel real good because I know I'm contributing to someone's future and most importantly, someone's life. ✨

Giving whole ❤️💛💙 heartedly is very important because we sometimes give because our parents FORCE 😞 us to. To be honest you are giving but God won't

really bless 🙏🏻 you cause you were not giving whole heartedly. (An example is with Cain and Abel)

Giving with the right 🧠 motive is also an important aspect because when you give expecting to receive ASAP... it is possible to not get anything as your heart ❤️ was not in the right PLACE.

Just to add one 👉 more thing about giving time ⌚ ; my little brother ATANG 🧒 was very generous this morning. I could not find my face cloth 😭 and I was very stressed because I would be wasting time looking for it, waste and I still had to bath and go to school. As if that was the least of my worries, I was writing 📖 today. My brother saw that I was running 🏃 around aimlessly and he asked me why. I explained to him what the issue was.

As soon as he heard 💡💡 me finish my sad complaint he wiped his feet, got out the bath, put on his gown and slippers and started helping me look for my face cloth. We finally found it in the dirty clothes basket (Heaven 😊🌟 knows how it got there) but I was touched at the fact that I'm normally very selfless toward ATANG. Despite that, he sacrificed his time to help me he gave me his time and without anything in return. 😊 So just by the way he doesn't know yet ,but my Friday allowance is all going to him this week. This is just to thank him and also to practice my giving skills.

Let us pray

Lord thank you for your son and thank you for giving him up for us. We love you and we just want to ask that develop within us a giving heart and a giving habit. You are the greatest giver, so may you teach us how to give. In Jesus name we pray... AMEN

Thanks for reading sorry that it was so long hope u sleep well

TSHEGOFATSO MOATSHE SIGNING OUT 🤘🤘

Day 3

Hey guys the devotional today is actually based off of a song 🎵🌸

The name of the song is: Oh come to the Altar

Giving is sacrifice as we discussed yesterday.

Well who better for us to look up to than Jesus for that. Giving shouldn't just be be; a giving of 🕒 time, money 💰 and so forth but should also be an inward thing. Kind of like offering.

You serving others and giving should be a outside reflection of what is happening or has happened on the inside. 🌸 Each and every one of us have stuff that we either thought we could deal with on our own or just personal issues that we don't like talking about. God says,"come to me all those who are heavy burdened and I will give you rest."

So one thing that should be on our giving list is what ever problems or issues that you are faced with because we can not do it on our own. For some people, their issues or troubles are hidden so deep inside that they can not recognise it right away but need time to come to terms with it. And that's 🙌. Yes we do say don't give with the expectation of getting something back. And that is true but sometimes when we do get something back or in return it's not in the physical but comes in forms of healing, comfort and inner strength💪.

God is our father and he knows exactly what we need. You might bring your issue before God and believe that by bringing a certain situation, you might gain comfort but God gives you strength. I know that personally, and I have been saying this for a while but haven't brought myself to doing it. I have an issue with being emotive, I have a tendency of being rather neutral.

So the challenge today is figuring out what exactly you need to give to God...

Prayer:

Dear God 🙏

May you help us face whatever situation we are faced with but to not do it alone. Thank you for constantly being there for us and for willingly wanting to help in our times of need. 🌸

In Jesus name...

AMEN

Day 4

Giving is Sacrifice 🦴❤️

1 Chronicles 21:22-24

David said to him, "Let me have the site of your threshing floor so I can build an altar to the Lord , that the plague on the people may be stopped. Sell it to me at the full price." Araunah said to David, "Take it! Let my Lord the king do whatever pleases him. Look, I will give the oxen for the burnt offerings, the threshing sledges for the wood, and the wheat for the grain offering. I will give all this." But King David replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying the full price. I will not take for the Lord what is yours, or sacrifice a burnt offering that costs me nothing."

David needed to build the temple 🏠 and there was a lady 👩 who was actually willing to give all she had to help him and that meant she was sacrificing 💀❤️ her well being for the will of God 🙏

This story 📖 also reminds me of Jesus ✝️ when he was praying 🙏 to God about him dying 💀😞 on the cross ✝️ but he knew that it was not his will but God's will and he needed to obey that. God put us on this earth 🌍 for a purpose and he may actually want us to sacrifice important things to us and he does this because it is his will and not ours. 🙏♂️ The reason God wants us to give most of the time is so that we can make room for more blessings, I'm not sure where but the Bible says that if We are entrusted with less and are faithful God will entrust us with more. 😊💙👉

My Challenge 🙏 for you guys including myself 😊 is that when God tells you to sacrifice something/somethings, know that there is a reason and know that it is his will no matter how much you love or value this object just know that you will be blessed and God will entrust you with more valuable/better materials

Prayer

Lord thank you 🙏 that you have blessed us with worldly 🌍 materials, Lord please help us to not cling too much to them as we will not come to Heaven ✨ with them Lord I pray today that each and every person who reads this 🙏 devotion will receive the courage to learn to sacrifice
In Jesus Name
AMEN 🙏

Day 5

Matthew 7:9-12 🌈

"Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

God would never give us what we didn't ask for. But he also gives us what we need.

💖 If God would go through such lengths to give us what we have asked. Then why do we give him the opposite of what he asks. He asks for all of us, and we give him half.
He asks us to show love to our neighbours yet we only do that when it's convenient. He says be there for one another at all times yet we only do it when we feel like it. 💔
If we would not like to receive half or nothing then why do we do this?

We sometimes tend to function on emotions or moods. But one thing we should also think about is how Jesus also didn't want to die or should I say was not in the mood to. Yet he did it because it needed to be done.

We pass homeless and poor people on the road on a daily basis. Yet how many of us stop to give them bread or yet pray for them? If we were in that position what would we want to be done to us. Wouldn't you be happy just by a stranger telling you that you are treasured and loved by God.

Prayer

Dear God

Please help us remember to do unto others what we would like them to do to us. And help us not to forget about the lengths that you went just to give us this wonderful gift that is grace and salvation.

In Jesus' name

Amen 🙏

Day 6

Giving forgiveness

My scripture for today will be:

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

God loved us, people who sin against him every day and we deny him we don't follow his instructions basically we do what he is against ,which is SIN

God loved us so much that he gave us the only son he had, he sacrificed his son to make sure that he can forgive us and restore his relationship with human kind

God forgives us everyday for multiple sins we do all the time ,but some of us have time to hold grudges on small squabbles or disagreements that get out of hand

If God has given us forgiveness and has forgiven all our sins before we even do them why can't we forgive ourselves when we make a mistake,Why are we so hard on ourselves when God has forgotten our sin and thrown it as far as the east is from the east which is a long way.

Giving out forgiveness is not easy I know but Jesus never stopped forgiving people in the Bible, he forgave the ungrateful lepers, he forgave the adulterous woman and

he even forgave the people who crucified him ,every time they whipped him,laughed at him, spat at him ,he just kept saying "Lord forgive them for they know not what they do" whereas with us it is "he/she knew exactly what they were doing , God must punish them" I realized something. No matter what a human being does and they ask for forgiveness God will forgive them, he won't punish them but he will let them suffer the consequences for their actions. Don't get me wrong I'm not saying don't get upset , just don't sin while you are angry

I encourage you tonight if someone does you wrong instead of telling them "God will punish you" bless them and say "God and I will forgive you"

Day 7

As Tshego and I have stated in all of the devotionals, giving is important. And that everyone has something to give. Doesn't have to be money but your time and prayers help.

Prayer is also an important part of giving. Because sometimes it's not for us to receive anything but it's because we have decided to stand in the gap for someone and pray for them.

There are many stories about great role models and prophets in the Bible. And in order for them to do most of the good work that they were able to do, they had people praying on their behalf. It doesn't mean that they too did not pray but that when they went through each trial and tribulation, they were not standing alone.

One of these people would be Esther.

Before Esther went to speak to the king she asked her people to pray with her. And in the end they did not just give or offer prayer for Esther but they were also able to gain or receive deliverance.

I am not saying pray for each other because sooner or later you are going to need them. But I want you to be able to see the power that your prayer has. Offering to pray for someone is important.

Because you are reminding that person that they are not alone and that God is with them.

How many of us have benefited from someone praying for us? Whether that maybe healing or whatever.

It's important to stand in the gap for each other. Because the Bible says when two or three gather in his name, he is there💕💕

Dear God

May you continue to remind us about the importance of giving and standing in the gap for each other. May we please reflect your light to this world. And provide flavor to this flavorless place that is our world.

Amen 🙏