



RUTLAND STREET CHURCH SERMON SERIES: GFG

GOOD FROM GOD,  
GOOD FOR US



Generosity

# Ephesians 1:3-14

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# Ephesians 2:8-10

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God –<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.<sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.





## 2 Corinthians 5

... we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. <sup>2</sup> In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. <sup>3</sup> For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup> they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. <sup>5</sup> And they exceeded our expectations: they gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.



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# 1. Generosity Honours God

2 Corinthians 9:13 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.

Proverbs 14:31 ...whoever is kind to the needy honours God.



## 2. Generosity Makes Me More Like Jesus

Proverbs 21:26 ...the godly love to give! (NLT)

Luke 11:41...be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.



# 3. Generosity is the Cure for Materialism

Matthew 6:24 ...You cannot serve both God and Money

1 Timothy 6:17-19 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.



# 4. Generosity brings God's Blessing

Proverbs 22:9 The generous will themselves be blessed

Deuteronomy 15:10 Give generously ... then because of this the LORD your God will bless you

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 ... For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.”

<sup>8</sup> And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.



# 5. Generosity will be Rewarded

Luke 16:9 (NLT)

Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.



# John Wesley

“Of the three rules which are laid down ... you may find many that observe the first rule, namely, ‘Gain all you can.’ You may find a few that observe the second, ‘Save all you can.’ But, how many have you found that observe the third rule, ‘Give all you can’? Have you reason to believe that 500 of these are to be found among 50,000 Methodists? And yet nothing can be more plain than that all who observe the first rules without the third will be twofold more the children of hell than ever they were before.”





# Romans 11:36 – 12:1

For **from him** and through him and for him **are all things**.  
To him be the glory for ever! Amen.

12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as **a living sacrifice**, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.

