# PPT Sacrificial Giving Stewardship Series Dr. Janet Cook, Senior Pastor November 11, 2018

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Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures are taken from the NKJV.

### **God Loves a Cheerful Giver**

2 Corinthians 9:7 "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

"Scripture has a tremendous amount to say about money or material possessions. Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables of Jesus deal with money. One out of every ten verses in the NT address this subject. Scripture has 500 verse on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but over 2,000 verses on the subject of money and material possessions." *God's Perspective on Finances, p.8, Larry Kreider* 

#### Your Heart and Treasure are Connected

Matthew 6:19-21 "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."

- Our resources/finances are not simply a physical matter they are a spiritual matter.
- Finances can either be a sign of surrender to God or slavery to this world system.
- Giving is not an obligation but an opportunity to invest in the Kingdom of God and lay up treasures in heaven.

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## **Everything We Have Belongs to God**

- God owns everything we have but he makes us managers of it.
- We must realize that we are merely stewards of any material goods we possess.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 "Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required in stewards that one be found faithful."

Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

Haggai 2:8 "The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the Lord of hosts."

Psalms 50:10-12 "For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, And the wild beasts of the field are Mine. 'If I were hungry, I would not tell you; For the world is Mine, and all its fullness.'"

Proverbs 3:9-10 "Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine."

# **We Cannot Serve God and Money**

Luke 16:10-13 "He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore, if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own? No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

- It is impossible to hold allegiance to two masters at the same time.
- The Lord is very concerned with our use of finances because He knows that if He can trust us with finances, He can trust us with spiritual things.

# Give Sacrificially, and Your Own Needs Will be Met

Luke 21:1-4 "And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So, He said, 'Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."

- What the widow gave required great personal sacrifice.
- The rich put in large amounts of money because they could easily spare it.

2 Corinthians 9:8, 10-11 "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work... Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God."

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 "But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So, let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

### Offerings for the Sanctuary

Exodus 25:1-3 "Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 'Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering. And this is the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze;'"

God has given us the mandate to Reach Higher, Grow Stronger, and to Go Deeper by teaching, training, and activating the saints for the work of the ministry of reconciliation so that the great

commission is fulfilled. River of Life Community Church is reaching out from the heart of the city and flowing to the nations.
Jesus said in Acts 20:35 "It is more blessed to give than receive."
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