

GIVE

Introduction

All Good things have a beginning. Generosity is a good thing. It is something that pleases God, and blesses both the giver and receiver. Contrary to what many may think, **Generosity has nothing to do with Affluence or Economics- Everything to do with the heart!** Where does generosity start? One of the greatest stories of people's willingness to give is found in a Bible Story, actually a letter written from the Apostle Paul to a group of believers called the Church at Thessalonica. In the letter Paul reveals the key to their generosity.... **"They gave themselves first of all to the Lord....."**. One will never struggle with giving if they have first given themselves to the Lord. If I belong to God, everything I have belongs to God.

Second is Not First. Give yourself to the Lord first, then no Christian virtue will be out of your reach.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever been blessed by someone's generosity?
2. When you are generous how does it make you feel?
3. What hinders generosity?
4. [II Corinthians 8:5](#) - "And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us." (NIV) What does it mean to you when you think about giving yourself first to God?
5. How do you give yourself first to God for Salvation?
6. How do you give yourself first to God for Service?

Moving Forward

This message prompts a "Spiritual Checkup" for each of us. Have I given myself to God first in salvation....Have I given myself to God first in Service? SECOND IS NOT FIRST

Changing Your Mind - Commit this to memory

[II Corinthians 8:5](#)

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