



*Generous living is about...*

*...discovering you're a partner with God  
and can live life with your hands open.  
...moving from I love me to I love you.*

## OPEN HANDS LEAD TO FULL HEARTS

One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly,  
but comes to poverty. <sup>25</sup>A generous man will prosper;  
he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.  
<sup>26</sup>People curse the man who hoards grain,  
but blessing crowns him who is willing to sell.  
Proverbs 11:24-26

### ONE WITH OPEN HANDS

- Gives freely.
- A generous man becomes a blessed man.
- Refreshes others — like cool, fresh water.  
Do not withhold good from those who deserve it,  
when it is in your power to act.  
Proverbs 3:27
- God gives to us so we can give to others. 1 Chronicles 29:14
- It's ironic that the stingy man comes to poverty,  
but the generous man prospers.
- God's economic principles are upside down!

### ONE WITH A FULL HEART

- Gains even more.
- Will prosper (this is about more than money).
- Will be refreshed — like cold water on a hot day.
- Blessing (concepts of prosperity, longevity, success, and well-being) crowns him.
- Generosity is associated with blessing. Proverbs 14:21 and 22:9
- Jesus said:  
"Give and it will be given to you..." Luke 6:38a
- Paul affirms:  
"You will be made rich in every way so  
that you can be generous on every occasion..." 2 Corinthians 9:11a

## NEXT STEPS

- Don't become defensive and reject God's words of wisdom, life and blessing.
- Remember this:  
Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,  
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.  
<sup>1</sup> Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give,  
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.  
2 Corinthians 9:6-7
- Begin tithing:  
"A tithe of everything... belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord."  
Leviticus 27:30
- We think we give to God, but in reality we give back to God.
- Jesus reaffirmed tithing. Matthew 23:23
- Test God:  
"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse,  
that there may be food in my house.  
Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty,  
"and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour  
out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."  
Malachi 3:10
- Start giving generously in faith — firstfruits. Proverbs 3:9-10
- Earn something and share with those in need. Ephesians 4:28
- Start looking for ways to live generously!

## EXPERIENCE GOD'S BLESSING!



July 9/10, 2011