



Our motives reveal the condition of our heart

**Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ lend to ‘sinners,’ expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because God is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Luke 6:30-35**

The message Jesus is conveying is simply: “GIVE!”

- Give to those who ask of you.
- Give money to those who cannot pay you back.
- Give love to those who don’t deserve it.
- Give mercy to those who wrong you.
- Give the kind of treatment you hope to receive from others.
- Give, give, give!
- And when you do, your Heavenly Father will make sure you get much more in return because you cannot out give God.

God has to work on 4 things to transform our hearts.

### **1. The Selfishness of our Heart**

**Be careful not to harbor this wicked thought: “The seventh year, the year for canceling debts, is near,” so that you do not show ill will toward your needy brother and give him nothing. He may then appeal to the LORD against you, and you will be found guilty of sin. Deuteronomy 15:9**

According to this versus we have to deal with being tempted to think “wicked thoughts” that keep us from having compassion toward others.

God says - “Do not allow your heart to think that way.”

We have to guard our hearts and not think wicked thoughts toward others that would keep us from having compassion on them

### **2. The Grieving of our Heart**

**Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to. Deuteronomy 15:10**

There is a reward for being a giver...it is a blessed life. God will bless you in all your works...

God instructs us not to grieve in our hearts after we have been obedient in giving.

We cannot let ourselves start to grieve over what we “could have bought” with the money if we had kept it for ourselves.

### **3. The attitude of our Heart**

**There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land... Deuteronomy 15:11**

With God’s help we have been called to be a generous people.

The way God transforms our hearts is by testing us to see if we will give generously to the needy in our midst.

### **4. Developing a Grateful Heart.**

**Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you. That is why I give you this command today. Deuteronomy 15:15**

Why did God instruct the Israelites to remember that they had been slaves?