THE GIFT OF GIVING

God blesses some people to bless the church through radical generosity.

KEY POINTS

- We live in a world of contrasts. In Canada, top CEOs can earn in a single day what most people make in a year. Yet many of the largest donations still come from those who give out of faith, not wealth.
- This shows us that generosity—when inspired by God has the power to reshape hearts, communities, and entire nations.
- The spiritual gift of giving, as Peter Wagner describes it, is when church congregants "contribute their material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness" (Romans 12:8).
- This gift is not about status or income—it's about a heart that delights in making sure God's work continues unhindered.
- People with this gift don't just give occasionally; they give consistently, joyfully, and strategically so that others can flourish.

Whenever God blesses a community, unity is present.

- The book of Acts shows a picture of the early church united in purpose. "All the believers were one in heart and mind" (Acts 4:32).
- That kind of unity isn't natural—it's spiritual. The believers understood that everything they owned came from God, so they shared freely. They weren't forced; they were inspired by love.
- Psalm 133:1-3 says, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.... For there the Lord bestows His blessing, even life forevermore." Unity is where God's blessing dwells. When believers move together in purpose, resources flow where they're needed most.
- For us today, unity still unlocks provision. When the church agrees on vision, generosity becomes contagious. People start thinking, "How can I be part of what God is doing?" rather than "What's in it for me?"
- The early believers weren't wealthy, yet their unity produced abundance. When God blesses a community, He does so through hearts that are aligned with His purpose.

The power of God's favour gives enough for no one to be in need.

- Acts 4:33-34 tells us that "With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them."
- Notice the link—when grace increases, lack decreases.
- The same Spirit that empowered the apostles to preach also empowered the church to give. Their faith in the risen Christ transformed how they viewed money and possessions.
- Instead of hoarding, they shared. Instead of fear, they lived from abundance. That's what grace does—it reorders our priorities.

KEY SCRIPTURE: Acts 4:32

(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

- Today, God still provides through His people. When we take care of His mission, He takes care of our needs (see Philippians 4:19).
- The power of favour works both ways: as we give, we experience the joy of being part of His provision to others.
- The early church reminds us that when we respond in faith, there is always enough to go around.

God radically blesses some people to radically bless the church.

Start-up: What's one

gift you've

given

or have received

that made

you smile

every time you think about

- Some believers in Acts, after they "sold land or houses, brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet" (Acts 4:34-35).
- That was not ordinary giving—it was radical generosity. They trusted God enough to release valuable assets for the sake of the Kingdom. Their faith became the foundation of church growth for generations.
- This echoes Exodus 35:5, where Moses said, "From what you have, take an offering for the Lord."
- The Israelites responded so passionately that Moses later commanded them to stop bringing gifts because there was more than enough (Ex. 36:6).
- When God gives a vision, He also provides for it through His people. Some people have been graced with the ability to generate wealth—not for personal glory, but to remove barriers to ministry.
- The gift of giving multiplies what others start. It equips the church to expand outreach, fund missions, and care for those in need.
- When those blessed by God give back to God, the whole body grows stronger. The gift of giving is not about wealth—it's about willingness.
- God blesses some people to bless the church through radical generosity.
- When we realise that everything we have comes from Him, giving becomes an act of worship, not obligation.
- May we, like the early church, give cheerfully and trust that as we open our hands, God will open His (Matthew 6:10).

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

- In Acts 4:32-35, believers shared everything they had. What does this teach us about unity and generosity in today's church?
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 and Acts 5:1-11. What does each scripture tell us about the act of giving?
- 3. How can we recognize when God is calling us to use our blessings to meet the needs of others?

PRAYER TIME

Lord, bless our giving to build Your Kingdom. Amen.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes. (Reminds me/Confirms) (New idea) (Think about)
(Speaks to my heart)
PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family. CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD

PRAYER FOCUS: Thanksgiving for God's goodness, provision, protection, freedom, health, etc.

24-hour Prayer: Monday @ 12:00 a.m. to Sunday @ 12:00 a.m.; Daily Devotions: Tuesday & Thursday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.; Departmental Prayer: Every Thursday (please check schedule) Corporate Prayer: Every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.), Saturday morning from midnight to 3:00 a.m., and Sunday @ 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 Phone Access: 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com/give



ALL NATIONS SUNDAY

We're preparing a special promo video for All Nations Sunday, and we want as many people as possible to be part of it. This is a celebration of the beautiful cultures, languages, and diversity God has blessed our church with. If you do not speak English as your first language, we especially encourage you to participate—your voice and culture are a vital part of this celebration! For more information, please contact Sis. Andrea Peel.



FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)
Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)
Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)
Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)
Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1;

Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16;

Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

Faith

Feed Canada to Feed the World

SANCTUARY

Building People, Building Resources ~ 2025 ~

> Pastor: Rev. Adrian W. Peel

"All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had."

Acts 4:32 (NIV)

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