

BEYOND SUNDAY

Taking Sunday's Message Into The Week



Series:

Message: The 5 Commands Of Generous Living

Main Text: Matthew 6:1-4, 19-34

Beyond Sunday Guide

Main Idea

This past Sunday, Pastor Joseph Grant shared a message titled “The Five Commands of Generous Living,” reminding us that Scripture has a great deal to say about money and generosity—not merely to inform us, but to shape the way we live. Depending on the Bible translation, references to money and possessions appear nearly twice as often as references to love, belief, and prayer combined. Clearly, this is something Jesus wants His followers to take seriously. As Pastor Joseph walked through Matthew 6, he showed how Jesus’ words challenge not only what we do with what we have, but also the motives, priorities, and trust that shape our decisions.

Pastor Joseph began by pointing us toward Jesus’ call to give for the right reason. Generosity isn’t about being noticed or earning God’s favor, but responding to the grace He has already shown us. From there, Jesus challenges His followers to invest in eternity, using what they have for something that lasts beyond this life. But doing that requires seeing our possessions differently. Pastor Joseph connected this to Jesus’ words in Matthew 6:22, “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.” The way we see things shapes how we respond to them. When something is being given away, do we first wonder who might need it, or how much we could get for it? The difference isn’t just what we see, but how we see.

That question of perspective leads naturally to the next challenge: Who or what are we serving? Jesus warns, “You cannot serve God and mammon” (Matthew 6:24). We may think our possessions serve us, but as Pastor Joseph pointed out, sometimes our stuff takes ownership of our closets, garages, and even our weekends! The issue isn’t simply how much we own, but whether our possessions or desire for security are beginning to compete with God for our hearts. Jesus then reminds us of the birds He feeds and the flowers He clothes, pointing us toward a Father who already knows what we need. When we seek His kingdom first, we can give, serve, and obey with confidence—not because we know exactly how everything will work out, but because we know the One we trust.

Talk About It

1. **Read Matthew 6:1-4.** What does Jesus teach about the motives behind giving, and why do those motives matter?
2. **Read Matthew 6:19-21.** What does Jesus say about earthly treasures and heavenly treasures? What do you think it means that our hearts follow what we treasure?
3. Pastor Joseph asked us to consider whether our stuff serves us or we serve our stuff. What are some ways possessions can begin to control our time, priorities, or decisions?
4. **Read Matthew 6:25-34.** What reasons does Jesus give for trusting our Heavenly Father, and how does that connect with living generously?
5. **Read John 3:16.** How does God’s gift of His Son shape the way we understand generosity? What does it mean to respond to His gift with faith and trust?



“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:21

“Your generosity should be a response to and a reflection of God’s generosity.”

Make It Practical

1. **Examine your motives.** Think about a recent time you gave, served, or helped someone. What motivated you? Ask God to help you practice generosity not to be noticed, but in response to His grace.
2. **Invest in what lasts.** Write down one way you can use your time, abilities, or resources this week to make an eternal difference in someone’s life.
3. **Check your perspective.** The next time you notice a need or an opportunity to help, pause before moving on. Ask yourself, “Am I looking at this through the lens of what I can gain, or how I can give?”
4. **Take inventory of what owns your attention.** Consider your possessions, spending, and commitments. Is anything taking more of your time, energy, or attention than it should? Identify one practical change that would help put it back in its proper place.
5. **Practice trusting your Heavenly Father.** Is there an area where worry about money, provision, or the future is making it difficult to live generously? Write down that concern, pray over it, and identify one step of obedience you can take while trusting God with the outcome.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your goodness and generosity toward me. Everything I have comes from You, and I’m grateful for the resources, opportunities, relationships, and blessings You have entrusted to my care. Help me never to take these gifts for granted or allow them to take Your place in my heart. Teach me to give with the right motives, invest in what matters for eternity, and see the needs around me through Your eyes. Guard me from becoming controlled by my possessions or consumed by worry about the future. Help me seek Your kingdom first and trust that You know what I need and will remain faithful. Most of all, thank You for the greatest gift of all, Your Son, Jesus Christ. Thank You for loving me enough to make a way for me to be forgiven and receive eternal life through Him. If I have never placed my faith in Jesus, help me take that step today, trusting Him as my Savior and Lord. May the generosity I show others reflect the generosity You have shown me. Help me live with open hands, a grateful heart, and a growing confidence in You. In Jesus’ name, amen.