

# Being Generous And Hospitable

## Romans 12:13

---

**Romans 12:9-21** [New International Version]

- 9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.**  
**10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.**  
**11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.**  
**12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.**  
**13 Share With The Lord's People Who Are In Need. Practice Hospitality.**  
**14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.**  
**15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.**  
**16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.**  
**17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.**  
**18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.**  
**19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.**  
**20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him, if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."**  
**21 Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.**

### Introduction:

It is estimated that 15 percent of everything Jesus said (as recorded in the gospels) relates to money or possessions. He said more about money than about heaven and hell combined. Jesus taught that how we handle money is the litmus test of our faith in Him.

### Luke 16:10

**He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.**

That verse is often used to say that if we're faithful in some insignificant job, then we'll get promoted to more important jobs. While that may be true, that application overlooks the fact that in the context, the "very little thing" is money, while the "much" refers to things of eternal value. It's quite ironic that the thing that for us is a very big deal (money) Jesus calls a very little thing! Jesus is saying that if we're faithful stewards of the money that He entrusts to us, then we'll be faithful with the things that really matter, namely, eternal riches.

Am I treasuring stuff and laying up treasures of stuff on earth, or am I treasuring Christ and laying up treasures in heaven by generously giving to promote His kingdom purposes?

### 1. Share With The Lord's People Who Are In Need.

**13 Share With The Lord's People Who Are In Need. Practice Hospitality.**

"Share" is the familiar Greek verb, *koinoneo*, often translated as "fellowshipping" or "sharing together."

#### A. Evaluating Your Generosity:

Generosity is a lifestyle that flows out of an attitude. Webster says that it refers to liberality in giving.

- **2 Corinthians 9:7** "Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

- **1 Corinthians 16:2**, “On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.”
- **Matthew 6:19-21** “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

## B. Growing In Your Generosity:

God owns the world and all that is in it [**Psalm 24:1; 50:10-12**]. He has entrusted each of us with a certain amount to use for His purposes until He returns [**Matthew 25:14-30**].

- **Ephesians 4:28** “He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need.”
- **1 Timothy 5:8** “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”
- **Luke 12:15** “Beware and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not *even* when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.”
- **Hebrews 13:5** *Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.’*”
- **1 Timothy 6:8** “If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content
- **1 Timothy 6:9-10** “But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”
- **1 Timothy 5:3-16**

## 2. Pursue or Practice Hospitality.

### <sup>13</sup> Share With The Lord’s People Who Are In Need. Practice Hospitality.

The idea is that we ought to go after or pursue opportunities to show the love of Christ by welcoming people into our homes.

- Hospitality” is literally, “the love of strangers”).
- Hospitality was practiced / pursued by the entire church [**Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:7-9**].
- Hospitality is a necessary qualification for elders [**1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8**].
- At the judgment, hospitality will be one mark that we are Jesus’ true disciples [**Matthew 25:34-35**].