

KINGDOM LIFE -8

“KINGDOM GIVING”

John Tulio
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GIVING IS A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF GOD’S KINGDOM.

Acts 20:35 *“In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (NRSV)*

OUR KING IS A GIVER.

1. God gave us life.

Gen. 2:7 *Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person. (NLT)*

2. God gave us a purpose.

Gen. 1:28 *Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.” (NLT)*

3. Gave us His Son.

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” (NRSV)*

THE KING’S GIFTS ARE IRREVOCABLE.

Rom. 11:29 *For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (NKJV)*

LIKE THEIR KING, KINGDOM CITIZENS ARE GIVERS.

Gen. 1:26 *Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like ourselves.” (NLT)*

HOW KINGDOM CITIZENS GIVE:

1. They give to their King heart-felt worship.

Isa. 29:13 *And so the Lord says, “These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.” (NLT)*

2. They give to their King their best gifts.

Matt. 2:11 *They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (NLT)*

2 Sam. 24:24 *But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the LORD my God that have cost me nothing.” So David paid him fifty pieces of silver for the threshing floor and the oxen. (NLT)*

3. They give to others with no expectation of return.

Matt. 10:41-42 *“Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” (NRSV)*

Matt. 25:40 *“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’” (NLT)*

WHEN WE GIVE TO OUR KING . . .

1. We acknowledge Him as Creator and Owner.

Psalms 24:1-2 *The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. For he laid the earth’s foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths. (NLT)*

2. We express our gratitude for His gifts.

Psalms 100:1-5 *Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth! Worship the LORD with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. Acknowledge that the LORD is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation. (NLT)*

3. We attract His royal favor.

Prov. 18:16 *A gift opens doors; it gives access to the great. (NRSV)*

Luke 6:38 *“Give, and you will receive. You will be given much. Pressed down, shaken together, and running over, it will spill into your lap. The way you give to others is the way God will give to you.” (NCV)*