

BE A BRINGER


“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.


Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK
Ted & Tonie Farris | New Mexico



PRAISE
- Our attendance is leveling out and picking up. October is Missions Month and we have committed to support 11 missionaries and 1 evangelical ministry this year.

PRAY
- Pray for a young man, Zachary. He has been called to preach. He has a lot of zeal, but lacks much needed knowledge in his life. We are encouraging him to attend the Faith Bible Institute in the Spring.
- Pray for the continued discipleship of John, who was the young man in a car accident in their last update. John is a young believer.
- Pray for the expansion of Faith Bible Institute into the Crownpoint area of the reservation during the Spring semester. We hope to gain four more students.

The NEW YOU



Handout: 01/21/24

Study Date: 01/28/24

The New You Financially

Acts 20:35 “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

When Paul quotes this famous phrase in [Acts 20:35](#), he is reminding the Ephesians church and elders of how God has worked in him to testify to the gospel of the grace of God ([Acts 20:24](#)). As Paul made his last trip to Ephesus, Macedonia, and Greece, he sought to collect an offering for needy Christians before delivering it to his final destination, Jerusalem ([Romans 15:22-29](#)). With Paul's last words to the Ephesians, he commends them in the word of grace, and uses his own life and ministry as an example of how we ought to give generously.

Paul specifically states that we are to work hard to help the weak, most likely referring to the poor or those in need of assistance to care for themselves. As Paul is speaking, he is not simply seeking encouragement and prayer for the poor but is calling the church to give financially to those who are in need. The New Testament calls for us to give to both the family of faith and outsiders ([Galatians 6:10](#)). Our words to the poor and weak—whether inside or outside the church—are deemed worthless, if no practical action is taken to help them ([James 2:14-17](#)). Therefore, when we consider what Jesus meant when He said it’s more blessed to give, our giving must not only be in the spiritual and emotional state but practically with finances and resources. God calls all people to steward their resources wisely for the sake of the gospel, and to help the poor, weak, widowed and orphaned ([1 Peter 4:10-11](#), [James 1:27](#), [Proverbs 19:17](#)).

Jesus’ life and ministry demonstrated [Acts 20:35](#), as He took care of those inside and outside the faith both spiritually and physically. He calls believers to give sacrificially as He gave up the riches of heaven in order that we may receive part of His inheritance. “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich” ([2 Corinthians 8:9](#)).

Like Paul, Jesus taught that we should use our financial resources to help the poor and needy ([Luke 10:29-37](#); [18:18-25](#)). Rather than investing our resources into our own interests, we invest ourselves into the lives of others for the sake of the gospel. This means that as we give, we do so unattached from our earthy things, knowing that the work of the Lord is more important than storing up earthy treasures ([Matthew 25:34-40](#); [Luke 6:30-38](#); [12:15-21](#)). Jesus, in [Mark 12:41-44](#) taught sacrificial giving as more worthy than giving out of our excess:

Resource: Crosswalk.com

KEY VERSE

Acts 20:35 (NKJV)

“I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 20:35

Introduction

1. In the 3rd paragraph on page 1 Jesus is “calling believers” to replicate His behavior in what way? Specifically in regard to “giving”?
2. In Acts 20:35 we read that “it is more blessed to give than to receive.” How have YOU found this to be true in your walk?

Tuesday: Psalm 24:1; Haggai 2:8

Recognize God Owns Everything

3. Psalm 24:1 tells us “The Earth is the Lord’s and all it’s fullness” including YOU. What does this mean for all YOUR possessions and YOUR abilities?
4. In Haggai 2:8 the Lord tells us *our* silver and gold are HIS! How does this biblical truth impact YOUR spending and financial priorities?

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 8:18; I Timothy 6:10

Understand That You Manage Some Of God’s Things

5. How have you “remembered” the Lord for the wealth he has given you?
6. I Timothy 6:10 warns us regarding the “love of money.” How would YOU define a “love of money”? What *“reveals this love”* in one’s lifestyle?

Thursday: II Corinthians 5:10; Luke 12:16-21

Know God Will Judge How You Manage His Things

7. II Corinthians 5:10 let’s us know we will be judged by how we’ve managed God’s “things” in our life? How often do you consider this day to day?
8. Do YOU consider your financial decisions to be “spiritual decisions”?
9. What does Luke 12:16-21 tell us will happen to those who choose to *“eat, drink, and be merry”* and *lay up treasure* for themselves?

Friday: Matthew 6:33; Proverbs 3:9-10a; Deuteronomy 26:2

Give From The First Part Of Your Income

10. According to Matthew 6:33 What is the first thing we should “seek” in life? What will be the result of doing so?
11. In Proverbs 3:9-10a we are told to “honor the Lord” with the *first fruits* of all our increase! Is this YOUR usual practice?
12. Deuteronomy 26:2 states that we’re to bring the “first” of our yield to God. How do you think God feels about getting “leftovers” instead?