

#### IV. YOU OUGHT TO GIVE AT LEAST A TITHE

*“<sup>23</sup> Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.”*  
Matthew 23:23

Obedient giving means to give at least the first 10% of your total gross income to God through the local church in a cheerful manner.

*“<sup>6</sup> But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*

*<sup>7</sup> So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.”*  
II Corinthians 9:6-7

#### V. JESUS WILL BUILD HIS CHURCH

*“<sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”*  
Matthew 16:18

Celebrate how God uses your generosity to build His church.

*“<sup>10</sup> Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness,  
<sup>11</sup> while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.”*  
II Corinthians 9:10-11

**YOUR GENEROSITY CAN MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED**

## **MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED** **Your Generosity Can Make Heaven Crowded** **Pastor Steve Reynolds**

### **Introduction:**

- A.** Will 2025 be a year of just earthly pursuits or a new year of eternal impact? Every person matters to God and every time one sinner is saved there is a party in heaven!

*“<sup>7</sup> I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.”* Luke 15:7

Imagine God using you to lead someone to Christ and causing a party in heaven!!

- B.** The Make Heaven Crowded Teaching Series will challenge you to grow closer to God and prepare you to share your faith with others. You will discover six simple, but powerful ways you can make an eternal impact with your life.

Jan 5	Your Worship Can Make Heaven Crowded
Jan 12	Your Readiness Can Make Heaven Crowded
Jan 19	Your Story Can Make Heaven Crowded
TODAY	Your Generosity Can Make Heaven Crowded
Feb 2	Your Invitation Can Make Heaven Crowded
Feb 9	Your Vision Can Make Heaven Crowded

- C. TEXT:** Matthew 6:19-21

## HOW YOUR GENEROSITY CAN MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED

Make Heaven Crowded Principle:  
Your generosity can make an eternal impact.

*“<sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”* Matthew 6:20

Jesus warned us that earthly currency has an expiration date. But when we give, we are laying up treasure in heaven which will last for eternity.

### Five Lessons That Jesus Taught About Generosity

#### I. GOD WILL BLESS YOUR GENEROSITY

*“<sup>35</sup> ... And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*  
Acts 20:35b

The blessings of God are both intangible and tangible.

*“<sup>38</sup> Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”* Luke 6:38

*“<sup>9</sup> Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the LORD; and King David also rejoiced greatly.”*  
I Chronicles 29:9

*“<sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”*  
Matthew 6:33

#### II. MONEY IS A SPIRITUAL INDICATOR

*“<sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* Luke 12:34

Jesus observes our giving.

*“<sup>41</sup> Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much.*

*<sup>42</sup> Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans.*

*<sup>43</sup> So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury;*

*<sup>44</sup> for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.””*

Mark 12:41-44

#### III. GENEROSITY IS NEEDED TO FUND MINISTRY

*“<sup>1</sup> Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him,*

*<sup>2</sup> and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities—Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons,*

*<sup>3</sup> and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward, and Susanna, and many others who provided for Him from their substance.”* Luke 8:1-3

Ministry increases as funding increases.

*“<sup>15</sup> not boasting of things beyond measure, that is, in other men’s labors, but having hope, that as your faith is increased, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in our sphere,*

*<sup>16</sup> to preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man’s sphere of accomplishment.”*

II Corinthians 10:15-16