GIVING TO OTHERS

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35)

All of us likes to receive gifts, presents, help, etc.
Receiving is a blessing!

Many times we have stingy hearts

However, Jesus said that the giver is more blessed than the receiver.

Ill. The dead sea (takes, takes & takes but never gives) it receives water from the Jordan river and other sources but because of its depth nothing flows out. Therefore, nothing can live in the dead sea.

Why is the giver blessed?

When you give to someone in need…

1. It makes you <u>HAPPY</u> to know you did right

Proverbs 14:21 - He that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.

You will experience the happiness that comes from making others happy.

Ill. The little boy and his small lunch: Matthew 14:17-f

2. You <u>LEND TO THE LORD</u>; and He repays well

Proverbs 19:17 - He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

God pays us back on <u>EARTH</u>:

Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again

Ex. The widow of Zarephath: I Kings 17:7-f

God pays us back in <u>HEAVEN</u>:

Matthew 10:42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.
Matthew 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

You reap for what you sowed:
Galatians 6:7 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
2Corinthians 9:6 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
Proverbs 11:24-25 - There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.
Proverbs 28:27- He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.
Ecclesiastes 11:1 - Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

3. You are a faithful steward with what God gave you, so <u>HE WILL ENTRUST YOU WITH MORE</u>

Luke 16:10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

4. You are <u>ACTING LIKE GOD</u>, who gives & gives

James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

5. You show <u>YOU REALLY CARE</u> about others

1John 3:18 - My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
1John 3:17 - But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?
James 2:16-18 - And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

Example: The Pineapple Story

What can we give to others to show that we really care for them?

- Our substance (food, clothing, etc.);
- Our service (a helping hand);
- Our Time;
    - The Gospel etc.

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