



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON Sunday, December 22, 2024

Series Title: The King is Coming!

Lesson Title: My Gift to Jesus

Key Scripture: Psalm 116:12

Introduction

Have you ever heard the saying, “You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.”? The very essence of love is giving and has been from the beginning. God loved Adam and Eve. When they sinned in the Garden of Eden, God still gave! After eating the forbidden fruit, they realized that they were naked. God gave them goatskins to cover themselves. He is our blueprint for the sacrificial nature of love – He loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son...the most impactful, destiny-shifting, life-saving gift ever given!

John 3:16-17 says, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”

Oh what love! And our love and appreciation for God should move us to give to Him. David said in Psalms 116:12, What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? Let’s talk about it.

Giving Our Time

Psalm 90:12 says, “So teach us to number our days, That we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Time is one of the most precious commodities that we have

– and because we don't know how much time we have, we need to be wise about how we spend it.

Are we wasting our time on senseless pursuits, or are we spending our time doing what God has called us to do? 2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV) reminds us that "...we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad." We are going to stand before the Lord to account for the things we did while we were alive – so a wise heart will help us to make good decisions about how we spend our time. Lord, teach us to number our days!

Giving Our Gifts and Talents

When you received Christ, you gained the right to be called a child of God. And with that position came the responsibility of advancing the Kingdom of God by helping to serve in the local church.

God has given our Senior Pastors a tremendous Vision for the Harvest Life Church, and He has uniquely equipped you to serve in one or more areas to support that Vision. And no one can say that they don't have any gifts, because everyone has at least one – and most people have more than one gift. Whatever your gifts, talents, skills and abilities are, the body of Christ needs you—just as God designed.

Are you currently serving on a ministry at Harvest Life Church? There are numerous options for serving – from ministries with recurring weekly or monthly opportunities, to ministries like Community Outreach that you can sign up for when the opportunities are available. Every person at Harvest Life should be serving in some way – your service in ministry is one of the pathways to discovering more about the gifts and talents you have and how God wants to use them!

Giving Financially

Giving is the highest form of worship! Did you know that when you give financially, whether tithing, offering or giving sacrificially toward our new Worship

Center, you are giving yourself? Every dollar that you give to advance God's Kingdom represents you – because you had to use your effort, intellect, creativity, time and more to earn it. So, if you earn \$20 an hour and you give an offering of \$100, you are saying, Lord, here is 5 hours of my time...5 hours of my life. The financial gifts you give bless the church and help the church to accomplish what God is calling us to do, but they also bless you!

Take a look at Galatians 6:7-8,

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”

God cannot lie, and His principles produce the outcome no matter what. So, when God says, “...whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” it means just that! If you sow corn, you will reap corn. If you sow beans, you will reap beans. If you sow life, you will reap what? Life! Commit today to be a 100% tithe and offering giver; giving 100% of your tithes and offering 100% of the time!

Giving God Your Life

When you are driving and you see the yellow triangle sign that says, “YIELD”, what do you do? You slow down or stop to allow the approaching traffic the right of way. You put your plan on hold because if you don't, there may be an accident!

We should yield to God the same way! We make plans in life to do this or do that, but do we consult God on any of it? God knows us better than we know ourselves – He knows the outcome of every situation. He is **omniscient** (all-knowing), **omnipresent** (everywhere at the same time) and **omnipotent** (all-powerful).

As children of God, we should give God the gift of a yielded life, and a heart that desires to honor and please Him above all – regardless of our personal

desires or aspirations.

When Pastor Deborah was a teenager, she had a plan. She was going to become a singer. Now this was not some wild fantasy; she actually had the vocal talent and the opportunity to do it – a representative from Motown Records came to her high school graduation to recruit her.

Her mother, Pastor Poindexter, allowed her to choose what she would do – and she decided to make Jesus her choice. Now, she has recorded multiple CD projects, has a single currently on the charts and more on the way! She is heard weekly worldwide through our streaming platforms, and she is anointed to bring forth deliverance, breakthrough and healing with her voice! This is an exponentially greater outcome than what would have been if she had not yielded to God's Will for her life! She was presented with the opportunity that fit perfectly into her plan for her life – but she decided to yield, to do the thing that would please God and bring Him glory, and it ultimately brought her the fulfillment she desired in the first place.

Matthew 16:25 says, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." Thank God for her yielding!

What areas do you need to yield to God in? Take some time to pray and ask God to show you what He wants you to do. Listen for Him to answer through the Word of God as our Pastors are preaching, as you read, during your prayer time or other ways.

Giving By Reaching Souls For Christ

It is clear in God's Word that Christians are called to outreach.

Luke 14:23 says, "And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

2 Peter 3:9 tells us that God is "...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

As servants of God we can clearly see that evangelism is our duty – we've been commissioned to go out into the highways and hedges (representing "far" and "near") to compel people to come in – to be saved. Having been saved from hell and eternal damnation ourselves, we should see evangelism as a privilege!

We want to do all that we can to win souls for Christ – snatching them right out of satan's grip. Every invitation we extend to someone is an opportunity to play a part in changing their eternal destiny from hell to heaven!

Evangelism requires sacrifice – and as God sees us giving our time, our care and our creativity to fulfill His heart's desire by bringing others into His Kingdom, we will reap blessings in our lives.

Conclusion

During this Christmas season as we are buying gifts, trimming our trees and enjoying our time with family and friends, let's remember that Jesus is the reason for the season! Let's make sure that in all our giving, we don't forget to give to the One who has given everything for us.

Name: _____

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

Introduction

1. **True or False (circle one)** – God gave goatskins to Adam and Eve to cover themselves when they sinned in the Garden of Eden.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. **True or False (circle one)** – According to the lesson, God is our blueprint for the sacrificial nature of love.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. **Write the scripture** – Psalms 116:12 (use the King James Version)

Giving Our Time

4. **Fill in the blanks** – Psalm 90:12

So teach us to _____ our _____, That we may apply
our hearts unto _____.

5. **Circle the correct answer** – According to the lesson, why do we need to be wise about how we spend our time?
- a. Because we don't want to be late.
 - b. Because clocks are expensive.
 - c. Because we don't know how much time we have.
 - d. None of the above
6. **True or False (circle one)** – 2 Corinthians 5:10 says that we will all be accountable for the deeds we have done.
- a. True
 - b. False

Giving Our Gifts and Talents

7. **Circle the correct answer** – According to the lesson, as children of God, we have the responsibility of pitching in:
- a. The first inning
 - b. To serve in the local church.
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. None of the above
8. **True or False (circle one)** – Harvest Life Church has very limited opportunities to serve.
- a. True
 - b. False

Giving Financially

9. **True or False (circle one)**. According to the lesson, giving is the highest form of worship.
- a. True
 - b. False

10. **True or False** – Being a 100% tithe and offering giver means giving 100% of your tithes and offering, 100% of the time.

- a. True
- b. False

11. **Where is this scripture found? (circle one)**

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall reap life everlasting.”

- a. Matthew 3:10
- b. Mark 3:10
- c. Malachi 3:10
- d. None of the above

Giving God Your Life

12. **Draw a line to match the attribute with its meaning.**

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| a. Omniscient | a. All powerful |
| b. Omnipresent | b. All knowing |
| c. Omnipotent | c. Everywhere at the same time |

13. **Where is this scripture found? (circle one)** “For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.”

- a. Matthew 16:25
- b. Melanio 16:25
- c. Malachi 16:25
- d. Moses 16:25

Giving By Reaching Souls For Christ

14. **Circle the correct answer.** In Luke 14:23, why did the lord want the servant to “compel them to come in”?
- a. So he could wash their feet
 - b. Because it was cold outside
 - c. That his house may be filled
 - d. All of the above
15. **Circle the correct answer.** 2 Peter 3:9 says, God is “...not willing that any should _____, but that _____ should come to _____.”
- a. purpose, all, remembrance
 - b. die, all repentance
 - c. perish, all, repentance
 - d. None of the above