

Serving Like Christ

5 Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

Psalm 112:5

35 "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of
hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words
the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than
to receive.'"

Acts 20:35

4 . . . not looking to your own interests but each of you to
the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:4



Selfish VS. Generous

- One person walking down the street meets another person who is begging for money.
- An older sibling has an item that the younger sibling wants. The older sibling is no longer using this item.
- A student sees an unpopular student drop his books in the school hallway.
- A girl has a first date planned on Friday night. But then a friend calls and says her grandfather died, and the funeral is on Friday night.
- A guy comes home after school and sees that his mom is sick in bed. He notices the laundry is overflowing, and there's no food in sight.
- A person is behind an older woman in line at the grocery store. The woman starts to pay for her purchases when she realizes she is several dollars short.

Limerick Repair

The following limericks that summarize today's Scripture texts have been disassembled. Put them back together again by placing the lines from the bottom of the page into the right places.

1

Here's some words for Christians who dare

"Don't just look out for number one.

Because God provides enough to share."

Verse: _____

2

Or lend freely to those at your door.

Will not cause your poverty,

Verse: Psalm 112:5

3

The words of Jesus, the work of Paul—

They gave all that they had away.

"Be giving like others who have heeded God's call."

Verse: _____

Missing lines:

'Cause your generosity

Acts 20:35

Give your stuff to some who have none,

Don't be afraid to give to the poor

Philippians 2:4

Throughout history, God's people stand tall.

For whatever you have, God surely has more!

Their faithfulness still speaks today:

To step out on faith and really care:

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

OUTGROWING GIVING

Ever since Emily was old enough to count, her parents gave her instructions about handling money. Her first allowance was three quarters. She remembers her parents teaching, "One for the church, one for the piggy bank, and one to spend for yourself." As she grew, they explained more about the importance of savings and even more about her contribution. Now she has regular babysitting jobs. Since the money is not coming from Mom and Dad anymore, she is rethinking their giving principles. After all, she doesn't want to give away what she might need.

FAMILY LOAN SHARK

Jake is the oldest of five children in his family. He grew up not having much spending money, but is now enjoying sudden wealth from his paper route. At first he enjoyed flaunting his money in front of his little brothers and sisters, but now he has found a more profitable approach. He loans them money that they pay off with interest. He also arranges for them to do some of his household chores in addition to paying back what is owed. Jake tries to make himself think he is just being a good businessman, but he is struggling with feelings of guilt.

HERITAGE OF GENEROSITY

Lillian is approaching 80 years old and is a widow. When she and her husband were raising their five children, they did not have much, but contributed generously to the church and a few missionaries. Some argued that they would be better served by investing more money and giving less away. Lillian is not wealthy now, but all her children are faithful Christians and are more than willing to give her anything she needs. More importantly, she is admired by her 12 grandchildren, who want to be just like her.