In God’s economy, we gain far more than we ever give up.

Here are four reasons why we should give.

Generous giving pleases God.

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Luke 6:38

We pick the measuring stick.

Do you want to be blessed a little or a lot?
The Example of a Farmer:

• When a farmer plants his seed he doesn’t see it as a loss. He sees the potential harvest.
• He can’t be stingy.
• He isn’t wasteful. He carefully plants his seed where it will bear the most fruit.
• He trusts God to do what only he can do – produce the harvest.

"Each one should give what he has decided to give…"

• Generously – 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%
• Willingly
• Cheerfully

II. God blesses those who give
Verses 8-11

"God is able to make all grace abound to you…”

One of the things that keep people from giving is fear.
In God’s economy, living on 90% with God is greater than trying to get by on 100% without God.

"So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”
Matthew 6:31-33

God will provide for you.
"Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely.” Psalm 112:5
“He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done.” Proverbs 19:17
“God prospers me not to raise my standard of living, but my standard of giving.” The Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn

God is the owner. We are just the middleman. We are stewards.

Benevolent Fund – Helps people in need
Special Projects and offerings – help specific ministries like Teen Challenge, The Gideons, Urban Homeworks, World Vision

Giving to Individual Missionaries – helps them in their specific ministry and keeps them on the field.

Giving to the Church – supports all of the above and more.
• Evangelism
• Children’s Ministry – Awana, VBS, Sunday School
• Youth Ministry – Evangelism and Discipleship
• Adult Ministry – Marriages, Families, Men’s and Women’s Ministry, Equipping and Evangelism, Making Disciples, Care Giving, Prayer

• Worship and the Preaching of God’s Word
• Missions – Bible Translation, Church Planting, Evangelism and Discipleship, Campus Ministry, Prison Ministry, Literature Distribution, Unreached People Groups,
• Staff and facilities to meet locally for worship, teaching, fellowship
Our giving to help others results in many expressions of thanks to God.
Men will praise God because of your obedience.
And they will pray for you.

“Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!”

**Conclusion**

Why should we give?
- God loves a cheerful giver.
- God blesses those who give and he will provide for you.
- God uses our giving to meet the needs of others.
- God is glorified when we give.