

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES – SUMMER 2024

6. Giving

Paul quoted Jesus as saying, *It is more blessed to give than to receive* (Acts 20:35). This is so true! The word “give” appears over 1,400 times in the Bible. Based solely on the number of times it is used, we can surmise that giving is a significant principle in Scripture. Jesus commands us: *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). This verse echoes God’s promise to the Israelites through the prophet Malachi (Malachi 3:10), which we discussed in mile 7 on stewardship.

While we have already covered giving our time, money, and abilities to the glory of God, it is also important to give of ourselves in service to others. When we take the initiative to give someone else our time, our ears and our hearts, we are essentially investing in that person. We are not only called to invest into our relationship with Jesus, but Jesus calls us to invest in others as well, in order to lead them into a saving relationship with Him.

Here are some questions for further reflection:

1. On a scale from 1-10, how would you rate yourself on this Spiritual Discipline?
2. What specific actions will you take to develop this Spiritual Discipline further?
3. Read the passages surrounding the verses referenced above and meditate on the Scriptural truths present in those passages.
4. Choose a verse to memorize this week.