



God encourages you to live up by giving up ↑

Colossians 3:1-2 - Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. ² Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

Life is happening here, but is your life all that's happening? Worshipping Christ and living for God involves living up.

Matthew 6:19-21 - ¹⁹ "Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

- Living and giving up means storing treasures in heaven not on earth. Where is your heart?

Mark 8:36 - And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?

- Do I believe I can give myself life by accumulating stuff? You start living life when you give up.

Possible next steps for the First Time Giver:

- Budget specifically for giving in the same way you would other monthly expenses.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 - "Now regarding your question about the money being collected for God's people in Jerusalem. You should follow the same procedure I gave to the churches in Galatia. ² On the **first day of each week**, you should **each put aside a portion of the money you have earned**. Don't wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once."

Possible next steps for the Regular Giver:

- Choose a percentage that would represent a new level of giving for you, potentially a Biblical tithe.
 - Central has several tithers that consistently support the ministry every week.

Malachi 3:10 - "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!"

Possible next steps for the Proportional Giver:

- Evaluate if your giving has become too comfortable or a routine. Is your level of giving requiring sacrifice?

2 Samuel 24:23-24 - "²³ I will give it all to you, Your Majesty, and may the Lord your God accept your sacrifice." ²⁴ But the king replied to Araunah, "**No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing.**" So David paid him fifty pieces of silver for the threshing floor and the oxen."

Possible next steps for the Extravagant Giver:

- Set a lifetime generosity goal for your family.
- Put a cap on spending and saving so that every additional dollar can go towards kingdom giving. This is saying I need x amount of dollars every month to cover my expenses and I need x amount of dollars in my savings/retirement accounts, everything else goes to the Kingdom, much more than 10%
- Leverage your own journey of giving to encourage and inspire generosity in the next generation.

Proverbs 13:22 - "Good people leave an inheritance to their grandchildren, but the sinner's wealth passes to the godly."