

**God's Principles and Priorities on
Time, Talent and Treasure**
Part 1. Financial stewardship, money, giving and blessing
(A Biblical perspective taken from The Blessed Life by Robert Morris)

IV. Need, Greed and Seed

Parameters of giving – 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

- You reap as you sow – both in kind and in amount (v. 6, Luke 6:38)
- Give as you purpose in your heart – you are the only person (with God's guidance) who can decide what the right level of giving is for you
- Give cheerfully, not grudgingly or out of duty (compulsion, necessity)
- God is looking for bountiful sowers [givers] with cheerful hearts

Sufficiency vs. Abundance

- God promises we will have “all sufficiency in all things” and “abundance for every good work”
 - 2 Corinthians 9:8
- What is a sufficient amount? Just enough to meet our needs?
 - Psalm 37:25, Matthew 6:25-34, Philippians 4:10-13
 - Who is our sufficiency? Philippians 4:19
- Beyond “sufficiency” is “abundance”
 - Luke 12:15-20, I Chronicles 29:13-17

Need or Greed – testing our faith

- God tests us both in our faith in Him to meet our needs (sufficiency) and in what we do when he blesses us over and above our needs (abundance) – Proverbs 30:8-9
- Some of us may seldom see abundance and have to trust God for every dollar to meet our most basic needs
- Some of us are so accustomed to having our needs met *and* an abundance on top of it, we take it for granted and may even look upon it as an entitlement
- What is need?
- What is greed? What do we do with our abundance?
- What is seed?

Seed – Abundance distributed (sowed) and multiplied

- 3 fundamental principles about seed:
 - Like begets like – you reap *what* you sow (Genesis 1:11-12)
 - The right order – you reap *after* you sow (Genesis 8:22, Mark 4:26-29)
 - Multiplication – you reap *more* than you sow (Isaiah 30:23, Psalm 126:5-6)
- God only supplies “seed” to “sowers” (those who will *plant* it) – 2 Corinthians 9:10-11
- God can get it *to* us, if He is sure He can get it *through* us

We must pass the test of need – trusting God to take care of us.

We must pass the test of greed – using our abundance wisely.

We must pass the test of seed – sowing bountifully and cheerfully.