

The welcome verse for this week is Ephesians 2:10, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”



Open Hands

Luke 12:13-34; 2 Corinthians 9:6
1 Timothy 6:17-19

The Bottom Line: We hold everything we are given with open hands in order to bless others and build His Kingdom here on earth.

Introduction:

The culture around us encourages us every day, “Fight for what you want!”

You have earned it. You deserve it. You should have it. Go take it.

This has caused a cycle of endless anxiety for getting what you want and for not getting what you wanted. Even if you did get what you want, you would have anxiety for trying to keep it.

Tension:

Aren't we anxious enough? Don't we long to be at peace?

Riches and possessions are just one more thing to cause deep anxiety in our souls.

Truth:

Jesus pointed out a direct correlation between our anxiety and our drive to fight for what we want.

Read Luke 12:13-34.

God does not ask us to stop desiring. He gives us something better to desire – the Kingdom of God... and God *loves* to give the Kingdom to us.

We hold everything we are given with open hands in order to bless others and build His Kingdom here on earth.

Application & Conclusion:

Adrian Rogers famously said, “It’s what you sow that multiplies, not what you keep in the barn.” Generosity is a way of recycling God’s blessings for joy and peace. We freely receive what we are freely given, and we freely give what we have freely received. Be rich in kindness and generosity, always ready to share both. This is what it really means to live.

Discussion questions for group this week:

1. What does this teach me about God?

2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?

4. If I could ask a question about this it would be....