

The welcome verse for this week is Psalm 54:6, “With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to You; I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.”



My Offering
Proverbs 11:24-25; Acts 4:36-37

The Bottom Line: His Kingdom comes when His people give.

Introduction:

Our society is comprised of a lot of individuals obsessed with themselves.

Self-love is at an all-time high. America has recently been understood to be facing a narcissism epidemic.

This “self-love” ideology has ingrained in us a sinful bent toward consumerism.

Tension:

The average American has more than they could ever want, and they are still left with no joy, no peace, and no ultimate satisfaction.

Truth:

Life is not found in self-indulgent. Story after story, scripture after scripture, this principle is proven true.

Fulfillment is found in deep generosity. **Read Proverbs 11:24-25.**

When we open our hands, God opens his hands. Closed fists can’t give, neither can they receive. Open hands are a way of believing that God can do more with what we have than what we can.

Someone who understood this principle in a great way was Barnabas.

Barnabas never had the desire to be front and center. In scripture, he’s what we would call a “person of the fine print.”

In the early days of the church, Barnabas decided to join in something that was much bigger than him. **Read Acts 4:32-37.**

The early church was deeply marked by generosity. They understood that everything they had came from God. Barnabas believed in faith that his generosity could help carry the mission of God further.

Barnabas went on to serve the mission of God in a great way, but it all started with this humble encouragement through generosity.

When we practice generosity, we partner with God on His greater mission. In other words, *His Kingdom comes when His people give.*

In our giving, God gets all the glory and we get all the joy.

Application & Conclusion:

There's nothing quite like the church of Jesus Christ. Sometimes God opens a door for you to walk up to a stranger and lead them to Jesus. Sometimes God opens a door for you to join in a greater communal mission where you will get to partner alongside your brothers and sisters to see various individuals come to Christ.

Partner with God's grand mission for the greater Moriches community by giving to the *All is Bright Christmas Offering 2021.*

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....