

The Generous Life The Beauty of Giving

Reading: [Isaiah 53](#)

Introduction

- When speaking of beauty, most think of women or jewelry or houses and sometimes nature.
- The Bible speaks of those, and also speaks of other beautiful things
 - But the Bible also speaks of the beauty holiness

[1 Chr. 16:29](#) Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

- The Bible speaks of the beauty of the Lord

[Psalm 27:4](#) One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple.

- The Bible speaks of the beauty of praise

[Psalm 33:1](#) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! For praise from the upright is beautiful.

- Our theme for this month is the generous life. We have considered: The Blessing Of Giving, and The Barriers Of Giving, So this week we look at **The Beauty Of Giving:**

1. The Beauty Of Giving Is Mercy

- Giving to someone because you have compassion for them
- The Good Samaritan [Luke 10:30-35](#)
 - It's about the hypocrisy of the religious leaders of the day.
 - It's about providing mercy for someone in need.
 - It's about being generous and compassionate and merciful
 - Rules are important, but it's not about rules but concern for others.
- The Real Story:
 - The Devil and his minions have robbed us and left us for dead.
 - The world doesn't care. Most don't want to get involved. Most don't want to get into any trouble or take responsibility.
 - Jesus had mercy on us, and saw our need for healing and mercy and sacrificed his own possessions to provide for us.

[Romans 5:6-7](#) For when we were still **without strength**, in due time Christ died for the **ungodly**. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.

2. The Beauty Of Giving Is Love

- What parents/kids give to kids/parents when they're young
- We all have trouble explaining love, but we know it when we see it.
- So does the world. We know real love. Not sexual love, not just fair-weather friends, not just business partners, but real love. Real love gives. Real love sacrifices. Real love shares. Real love cares. Real love hurts with you. Real love is happy for you. But, real love isn't afraid to correct you.

[Romans 5:8-9](#) But God demonstrates His own **love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

- He did that out of love. He was trying to save us not just from our sins, but from also ourselves.

3. The Beauty Of Giving Is Grace

- Giving not because they deserve it, but because they need it.
- David when King Saul sought to kill him
 - Saul threw a spear at David to pin him to the wall. [1 Sa 18:11](#)
 - Saul wanted David to fall by the hand of the Philistine [1 Sa 18:25](#)
 - Saul became David's enemy continually. [1 Sa 18:29](#)
 - Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; [1 Sa 19:1](#)
 - **David's response** to all of Saul's attacks and pursuits:

[1 Samuel 24:6](#) And he said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he *is* the anointed of the LORD."

- No wonder he was called "a man after God's own heart." [1 Sa 13:14](#)

- Jesus gave his life for us to demonstrate grace:

[Romans 5:10](#) For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

[Ephesians 2:5](#) even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

- We didn't deserve it but we needed it.

Conclusion:

- I wanted to provide an image of beauty for this lesson so I looked it up. Every image that appeared on that search had to do with women. No doubt, women are beautiful. Even the Bible shows that. But there's so much more to beauty than the female body or face.

- Listen: Speaking to wives, Peter said

[1 Peter 3:3-4](#) Do not let your adornment be **merely outward**—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be **the hidden person of the heart**, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

- The cross is not beautiful, yet its cruelty provides something very beautiful [Isaiah 53](#)
- What a generous life...