



MESSAGE NOTES

Heart for Giving

1 Corinthians 13:3

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1 Corinthians 13:3 If I give everything I have to feed poor people and if I give my body to be burned, but do not have love, it will not help me.

The motivation for our giving should always only ever be out of love. There are many other different motivations for giving but this is the only one that counts.

1. Not to be seen

Matthew 6:3-4 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

When your motivation for giving is only to be seen and recognized by other people you are not giving out of love. If you boast about it you have already received your reward.

2. Not out of greed

Luke 6:35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High.

When we give expecting something in return we are actually giving out of greed. Love doesn't expect anything in return.

3. Not out of obligation

2 Corinthians 9:7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

God wants us to give and serve because we want to not because we have to. He wants us to do it willingly and joyfully.

The only reason we can give so freely out of love is because we believe in a God who loves us so freely. God gave the most precious thing, His only Son for us so that we could walk in a loving relationship with Him. It's this love of God for us which overflows from us to the people around us.