

Week 4

Who or What do You Worship?

Matthew 6:19-21, 24 | Leviticus 27:30 | 2 Corinthians 9:11-13
Reflection Guide

SPIRITUAL FRUIT INVENTORY:

Love: John 3:16 reminds us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." Is your giving reflecting God's love and sharing God's love with others? Who or where is one place you could share God's love through your generosity in the coming month?

Joy: 2 Corinthians 9:7 declares, "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Does giving bring you joy? Are there any areas where you notice a reluctance to give? Spend some time processing those with the Lord. What might need to change?

Peace: Do you feel at peace when you give money away or does it make you anxious? Explore those emotions. If there is a fear of not having enough, talk with God about it and ask for that peace that surpasses all understanding as you align your finances and giving with God's Word.

Patience: Are you patient to see the fruit of your giving? Are you giving with strings attached, or do you surrender each gift, trusting God for the ultimate results once you have followed His leading to give?

Kindness: Where could you share God's kindness through the blessing of generosity, perhaps somewhere it is least expected?

Goodness: Where have you seen God's goodness to provide when you have said yes to the Lord's nudge to give? "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights..." (James 1:17 NIV). How can you share God's goodness with others through your generosity, giving God the credit as the source of the gift?

SCAN ME!



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SPIRITUAL FRUIT INVENTORY (CONTINUED):

Faithfulness: Where do you need to be faithful to God's prompting to give?

Gentleness: Is your giving characterized by a gentle humility, or do you need the recognition and praise for your gifts?

Self-control: Do you have a system for setting aside money for giving as a first priority? If not, what tool (automatic giving, a separate bank account for giving, donor advised fund, etc.) will you use to make it a first priority?

Picardo, Callie & Rosario. *Money Talks: A Biblical Take on Earning, Saving, Spending, and Giving* (p.163-4). Market Square Books.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPE: WEEK 4

Generous and gift-giving God, in your ultimate generosity you created us in your own image. You created us to join in your generous ways of creating and caring and sharing. Of this creation, you said that it was supremely good. Too often we have preferred our ways to your ways. Too often we have worshiped what is created instead of you, the generous creator. Too often we have loved money, more than we have loved others, ourselves, or even you. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to receive your spirit of generosity. Teach us to be generous people through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.