

November 19, 2017
Mark 12:41-44

THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

I. Introduction:

II. Unpacking The Passage:

A. Jesus Observes Our _____

“Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury.” Mark 12:41

B Jesus Observes Our _____

“.....Many rich people threw in large amounts. [42] But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.” Mark 12:41-42

C Jesus _____ Our Giving

[43] Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. [44] They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything--all she had to live on." Mark 12:43-44

III. Stewardship Principles:

A. Giving Is A _____ Matter And Not
A _____ One

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; [6] in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

B. Stewardship Encompasses Our _____
Towards God

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

C. There Are Great _____ To Be
Received From God When We Give

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."
Acts 20:35

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller [25] The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped." Proverbs 11:24-25
(MSG)

IV. Conclusion And Application:

A. Remember God Is A Giver

"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. John 3:16

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45

B. Would you prayerfully consider what you might give to our 2018 Ministry and Operations Budget

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of November 20th
Mark 12:41-44

Open It

1. In what ways are outward appearances misleading?
2. When was the last time you found out the true identity of an impostor or person who pretended to be something he or she was not?
3. *What does it mean to be poor?

Explore It

4. Where did the events of this story take place? (12:41)
5. Where did Jesus sit? (12:41)
6. What did Jesus see from where He sat near the temple? (12:41)
7. What did the "rich people" do at the temple treasury? (12:41)
8. What do the "rich people's" actions tell us about their motivation for giving? (12:41)
9. *What did the "poor widow" give to the treasury? (12:42)
10. *Why did Jesus call His disciples when He saw the widow put in her offering? (12:43)
11. *How did Jesus compare the actions of the wealthy people to the actions of the poor woman? (12:43-44)
12. Why did the large amounts of money given by the rich people not impress Jesus? (12:44)
13. Why was the widow's gift so significant in Jesus' eyes? (12:44)

Get It

14. Why do you think Jesus purposely sat near the temple treasury?
15. What central principle did Jesus focus on in this story?
16. *How does God evaluate a person's giving?
17. What place does a person's motivation and attitude have in their giving to the Lord, according to Jesus' teaching in this passage?
18. How does Jesus evaluate your giving?
19. *In what ways can we give to God?
20. Why do you think God wants us to give sacrificially?
21. What has been your attitude toward giving your money to the Lord?
22. When have you ever simply given out of your wealth instead of giving sacrificially to the Lord?
23. How do you need to change your attitude about giving?
24. What else does God want from us besides our material wealth?
25. What attitude should we have about giving of ourselves to the Lord?

Apply It

26. What specific steps are you willing to take this week to give sacrificially to the Lord, of either your material wealth or your abilities and time?
27. *How can you ensure that your attitude and motivation is right when you give to the Lord this week?