

Gifted: To Give

Connect:

- * How did it go this past week with using your gifts for God?
- * What was helpful, encouraging or challenging about this week's message *Gifted: To Give*?

Study:

- * What gifts did Joseph have and how did he use them?
Genesis 39:1-6; 40:8; 41:15-16, 39-44; 50:20-21
- * What gifts did God give to Daniel and his three friends?
Daniel 1:17, 20
- * How did they use these gifts to impact others in Daniel 2-6?
- * How had Dorcas used the gifts God gave her? **Acts 9:39**
- * What gifts did Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus have? How did they use them? **John 19:38-42; Matt. 27:57-58**
- * What gifts did God give Paul? What does Paul tell us Jesus said about giving? **Acts 20:35**

Apply:

- * Based on these stories, what is the purpose of God's gifts to us?
 - * Make a list of the people God is leading you to help through the gifts He has given you:
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- * What steps will you take towards helping them this week?

Pray Together: *Take significant time to pray together now about the things you have learned and the commitments you are making for this week*

Further Inspiration

*"Looking unto Jesus we see that **it is the glory of our God to give**. "I do nothing of Myself," said Christ; "the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father." "I seek not Mine own glory," but the glory of Him that sent Me. John 8:28; 6:57; 8:50; 7:18. In these words is set forth **the great principle which is the law of life for the universe. All things Christ received from God, but He took to give**. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. **And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life.***

*In heaven itself **this law** was broken. **Sin originated in self-seeking...***

*...that the world might be brought back to God, Satan's deceptive power was to be broken. This could not be done by force. The exercise of force is contrary to the principles of God's government; **He desires only the service of love**; and love cannot be commanded; it cannot be won by force or authority. **Only by love is love awakened. To know God is to love Him; His character must be manifested in contrast to the character of Satan. This work only one Being in all the universe could do. Only He who knew the height and depth of the love of God could make it known.**"*

– Desire of Ages, p. 21-22

*"He whose **heart is aglow with the love of Christ** will regard it as not only a duty, but **a pleasure, to aid** in the advancement of the highest, holiest work committed to man—the work of **presenting to the world the riches of goodness, mercy, and truth.**"*

– Acts of The Apostles, p. 338

Further Reading:

- Matthew 10
- *Thoughts From The Mount of Blessing*, Chapter 4