

More than all of them

Luke 1:1-4 // Pastor Todd Dugard

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Open Up

Three friends with different financial perspectives are out playing golf and they're trying to decide how much to give to charity. So, the first says, "Let's draw a circle on the ground, we'll throw the money way up in the air and whatever lands inside the circle, we give to charity. The second friend says "No, we'll draw a circle on the ground, throw the money way up in the air and whatever lands outside, that's what we give to charity." The third friend saw things another way saying, "No, no, no", we'll throw the money way up in the air and whatever God wants, He keeps."

Do you ever feel like you're the third friend trying to give money and keep it at the same time?

Dig In: What am I putting into the building of Christ's kingdom?

- How does this passage help us understand that an offering's value is judged by the condition of the giver's heart?
- Which point from the sermon resonates most deeply with where you are at spiritually? (Sacrifice: Is it costly? Sincerity: Is it heartfelt? Selflessness: Is it others-centred?)
- Would others describe your giving as all, some, or pretentious? How could you move toward the kind of gift the poor woman gave?
- For a person with a regular income, it can be tempting to make giving 'automatic and affordable' rather than thoughtful and sacrificial, so what can a person do to keep giving as a matter of faith and not simply the math of tithing?
- Sometimes wealthy people have opportunities to make substantial contributions to church projects or people in financial need. How can believers keep this type of giving from being corrupted by pride?
- What has to happen in a person's heart before they'd give their last dollars to be used for ministry?

Break Out

Take some time with a trustworthy friend and put your giving to the test against the sermon's outline of sacrifice, sincerity, and selfless. Pray together about areas where growth is possible. What will do to take step of growth in that area?

