

Holiday Series - *Making Christmas More Meaningful, part 2*

Message Summary: Christmas and giving have always been associated together. It's why we say; "Christmas is the Season of giving." The foundation for this is not in the practice of giving gifts to each other. It's the example that Jesus set for us in the Christmas story and the reason He showed up in a manger in Bethlehem as the ultimate gift given. Giving is God's Kingdom principal of sowing and reaping – planting and harvesting. We harvest what we plant in our lives. Look to making a meaningful Christmas this year by giving?

Meaningful Christmas with Giving

- 1. We give our time. Ephesians 5:15-17**
 - A. Allow time for interruptions.**
 - B. Prioritize time for relationships not activity.**

- 2. We give our money. 2 Corinthians 8:9**
 - A. Give to make a difference in others.**
 - B. Give to imitate Jesus.**

- 3. We give our encouragement. Proverbs 11:24-25**
 - A. Be intentional with your words.**
 - B. Be aware of others' condition, emotions, pain, weariness.**

- 4. We give ourselves. 1 John 3:16**
 - A. Put the needs of another above ourselves.**
 - B. Sacrifice accomplishes more than what we gave up.**

Discussion Questions: *LifeGroups are on Holiday Break*

EXPLORE IT- Review Sunday's sermon outline and Scriptures together with someone.

1. In what ways can you give your time this Christmas to others?
2. How can your generosity this Christmas make a difference in others?
3. Who in your life needs your words of encouragement? What do they need to hear from you?
4. How can you give yourself in a way that blesses those around you? What are some specific actions that meet the needs of someone else?