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When is More Money The Answer?

(morphing from a consumer into a creator)
(SERIES: Generous Wins: 05 of 06)
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"But remember this--if you give little, you will get little. A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much. Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give. Don't force anyone to give more than he really wants to, for cheerful givers are the ones God prizes. God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more so that there will not only be enough for your own needs but plenty left over to give joyfully to others. It is as the Scriptures say: 'The godly man gives generously to the poor. His good deeds will be an honor to him forever.'

For God, who gives seed to the farmer to plant, and later on good crops to harvest and eat, will give you more and more seed to plant and will make it grow so that you can give away more and more fruit from your harvest. Yes, God will give you much so that you can give away much, and when we take your gifts to those who need them they will break out into thanksgiving and praise to God for your help. So two good things happen as a result of your gifts--those in need are helped, and they overflow with thanks to God." (2 Cor 9:6-12 TLB)

When is more money the answer?

When you know **what it is**.

When you know **what it isn't**.

When you know **what it can do**.

". . . 'Do you have a coin? Let me see it.' They handed him a silver piece. 'This engraving—who does it look like? And whose name is on it?' They said, 'Caesar.' **Then give Caesar what is his, and**

give God what is his.' The Pharisees were speechless." (Matthew 22:18-22 The Msg)

When you know **what it can't do**.

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." (1 Timothy 6:17-19 NIV)

When you practice the principle of **overflow**.

When you obey the laws of the **harvest**.

The law of **cause and effect**.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. **Do not condemn**, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **Give, and it will be given to you**. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:37-38 NIV)

The law of **sowing and reaping**.

"Remember: **A stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop**. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving." (2 Corinthians 9:6-7 The Message)

The law of **delayed gratification**.

"The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. . . ." (Galatians 6:8-9 NIV)