

2016 Turn the Page  
“Live Generous”  
Pastor Eddie Turner  
Sunday, January 17, 2016

2 Cor. 9:6-8(NKJV) ~ But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup> So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have abundance for every good work.

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2 Cor.9:6-8(NIV) ~ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup> Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work

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Philippians 3:13(TLB) ~ I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.

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- Whatever it is that has held me back in my past, I don't want it to hold me back any longer.
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- Whatever has paralyzed me from moving forward, I want to get free of it in 2016 so I can continue on the journey God has for me.
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- Whatever page I keep rereading, whatever memory continues to haunt me, whatever addiction continues to hold me, whatever moment continues to torment me from my past-I am ready to turn the page and be over it!
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Getting over and getting through the bad days of our past requires intentional, consistent discipline of our thought life. When we make

the decision to renew our minds~ removing the painful thoughts and replacing them with God's promises; God's grace and ability will accompany us on our journey to freedom.

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• “God is able to make all grace abound toward you...  
The word “grace” is referring to “the sum of earthly blessings and the power and equipment needed for ministry.”

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• “that you, always having all sufficiency in all things..”  
The word “sufficiency” means “enough.”

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• may have an abundance for every good work.  
The word “abundance” means “to exceed a certain number.”

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John 12:1-8(NIV) ~ Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, <sup>5</sup> “Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to

the poor? It was worth a year's wages." <sup>6</sup> He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

<sup>7</sup> "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

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- Anytime you find generosity, you will also find selfishness battling for control.

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"I resented the fact that someone had a nicer house than mine. A spirit of compassion was not motivating me, a spirit of envy was."

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Malachi 3:8-11 (NIV) ~ "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'"

"In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup> You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me.

<sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. <sup>11</sup> I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty.

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Is it possible that just as Judas robbed the Lord by taking money out of the offering bag, we have been guilty of robbing Him by failing to put into the offering bag what is rightfully his in the first place!

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- God is constant- Finances are not

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Researchers say the number one reason for divorce is communication, with money following a close second. But then you discover the number one thing couples do not communicate about is finances. Therefore money is the main source of conflict in marriage!

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- Recognize and Remove the Spirit of Mammon over your Money

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Matt.6:19-21; 24(NKJV)~ <sup>19</sup> “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. <sup>24</sup> “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

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Mammon is an Aramaic word which essentially means, “riches.”  
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In Matt. 6:24- Jesus is referring to Mammon as the spirit which rest on money!  
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All money has a spirit on it- Money has the Spirit of God on it or the Spirit of Mammon on it.

We will serve the Spirit of God or we will serve the Spirit of mammon. We will be loyal to the Spirit of God or we will be loyal to the spirit of Mammon.  
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- Mammon promises those things which only God can give: security; significance, power, freedom and independence.
- Mammon tells us it can insulate us from life’s problems and that money is the answer to every situation. Money is not the answer-God is!  
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1Tim.6:10(NIV) ~ <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.  
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If we want to turn the page in 2016 and get free from the fear of lack-it begins with a decision to place our total confidence in God and not in money!