

# SERMON NOTES      Sunday 3 September

## sunnysidechurch

**Giving Sunday (Speaker: Chris Stratta, The Leprosy Mission)**

**Bible passages: 1 Chronicles 29:6-16 and Luke 12:32-34**

### **1. Everything belongs to God, so give back to Him what's His.**

- Illustration: A friend who gave a Christmas present to her grandmother, and received the same gift back the following Christmas!
- "We give you only what you have already given us" (1 Chronicles 29:14)
- Everything we have comes from our generous God and we're borrowing it while we're on earth
- Jesus gave everything on the cross for us

### **2. Where you put God's money shows what you treasure, so make His treasure yours.**

- "Wherever your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34).
- Making money and possessions our treasure won't satisfy us.
- God Himself is true treasure. When we treasure God, His priorities become ours, so we want to "give to the poor" (Luke 12:33).
- Illustration: St Lawrence's treasure

### **Conclusion**

Let's invest in our friendship with God and invest in what lasts, giving sacrificially to those in greatest need.

### **Some questions for discussion**

1. What is the best gift you've ever received and why?
2. Read 1 Chronicles 29:6-16. What do you notice about this passage, especially David's song of praise?
3. Why do you think Jesus was willing to go to the cross?
4. Read Luke 12:32-34. What do you think Jesus meant by "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"?
5. What is 'treasure in heaven'?
6. Why do you think John Rockefeller answered the question "How much money is enough?" with "Just a little bit more"?
7. If someone asked you to give up your money and possessions, how would you feel and why?
8. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through this passage? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

"Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail". (Luke 12:33)

Why not spend some time praising God for his great generosity to you? You could use the words from David's song of praise (1 Chronicles 29:10-14) as a guide.

Chris Stratta