

SERMON NOTES **Sunday 4 October** **sunnysidechurch**

Bible passages: 1 Chronicles 29.1-20; Matthew 19.16-24

Introduction

- CT Studd gave away a fortune to 'start clear with the Lord'
- What is it that makes followers of Jesus so generous?

Giving is part of our worship

- Offering our whole selves to God every day is our 'true and proper worship' (Romans 12.1)
- David and the leaders of Israel give willingly and joyfully for the temple (v6-9)
- God's temple today is his people (1 Corinthians 3.16)

Why we give: we know who God is (v11-12)

- 'Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour' (v11)
- Our view of God is often too small; he rules all things

Why we give: we know who we are (v14, v20)

- Made in God's image, yet sinners reliant on his grace (Psalm 8)
- 'Though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor' (2 Corinthians 8.9)

Why we give: we know whose 'stuff' it is (v14)

- 'Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand' (v14)

Conclusion: rejoice in our giving

- Like Israel, we are called to give joyfully and willingly (v9)

Some questions to discuss

1. Who has been generous to you recently?
2. Read 1 Chronicles 29.1-20 again. What do you notice?
3. Read Matthew 19.16-24. What might 'starting clear with the Lord' look like for us?
4. Read Romans 12.1. What difference does it make to see our giving as an act of worship, and not just a duty?
5. If we really believed that everything comes from God (v14), what difference would it make to how we use our money, time and gifts?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 8.9 and 9.6-7. How does Jesus' generosity to us shape the way we give?
7. Look at our Gift Day partners below. Which will you commit to pray for this week?
8. Is there one thing that you are taking away from these passages? Is there something you need to do in response? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something God wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do.

'Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour.' (1 Chronicles 29.11)

Why not thank God for all he has given you, and ask him to help you give joyfully this Gift Day?

Jeremy Moodey