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Rock Church Pastor Miles McPherson

Money Metaphor August 27, 2023

This 3-week series unpacks the relationship between faith and finances, focusing on the powerful truth that generosity is not a burden – it's our privilege! In Part 1, Pastor Miles elaborates on four aspects concerning the concept of reaping and sowing.

In your group, read Galatians 6:7-9, review the points below, then discuss accordingly: Two principles to remember:

- A) God is not mocked (Luke 6:38, 1 Samuel 2:30, James 4:8). Reciprocation is an Eternal principle of give and take. God will intentionally reward you and reciprocate your actions to become more like Him, unlike karma, luck, and fate which all happen randomly. Honor God and He will honor you.
- **B)** God provides the seed to be sown (James 1:17). Every good thing you have is from God, so don't be arrogant, thinking that you don't need Him and that you could be like Him. He has already given you what you need to sow.

Four points to consider:

1. We reap *what* we sow (Galatians 6:7). Integrity is about being the same on the outside as it is in the inside. Everything God made has integrity. God's not trying to trick you.

Discussion: Take a moment to think about your generosity. Do you consider to be a cul-de-sac (all about you) where blessings stop/end -or- are you more like a freeway (where the harvest flows through you)?

2. We reap *after* we sow (Galatians 6:8-9). There is a season for sowing and a season for reaping. The seed you plant takes time to grow. Whatever you're being faithful in, you will reap a harvest over time.

Discussion: Briefly share a time in your life when you planted a seed, hoping a situation was likely or certain to happen. What was the outcome?

3. We reap *more* than we sow (Galatians 6:8, John 3:16). When you are generous financially, you have no idea how it passes through the church to the community. Three reasons you might not see your blessing: you might have sown with a bad attitude; you gave, but not a tithe; or the blessing was so big you didn't see it.

Discussion: Have you ever given and were blessed in return <u>beyond</u> measure? How did that make you feel?

4. We reap *only* if we sow (Galatians 6:8). If you don't put the seed in the ground in the first place, nothing will happen. Think about how much will be kept by you and how much will be sown by you. Take care of what God has given you... honor it... sow... reap... and the kingdom will grow.

Discussion: What is that one thing (or two) that God is asking you to surrender to Him, so that you could fully be utilized the way He desires for you?

