

November 13 | Sunday
The Good Life: Giving of Yourself

Read [1 Timothy 6:17-19](#)



14 | Mon – Godliness, part of the good life? | Read [1 Timothy 6:6-16](#)

This letter is written to Timothy, a young pastor, from his mentor Paul giving godly counsel. He is warning about false teachers who equate godliness with financial gain. Paul reminds him -and us - that “godliness with contentment is great gain.” Gratitude protects us against greed and it opens our eyes to what we can share with others. Is there a time recently when you gave something to another person and experienced the joy?

15 | Tue – A gift does not have to be money | Read [1 Timothy 6:17-19](#)

When there is a worthy cause that needs support, have you ever heard someone say, “Well, I don’t have time so I will just write a check”? There is nothing wrong with being wealthy, but these verses remind us that wealth can be fleeting. Paul says that we should be rich in good deeds and generously willing to share what we have, large or small. Both are good but which is easier for you - giving financially or sharing your time?

16 | Wed – Is “staking your claim” part of the good life? | Read [Luke 14:7-14](#)

In these verses, Jesus urged people to avoid selfishly pushing for their own recognition and advantage, and to leave room for honoring others. Have you ever known a person, like the ones Jesus noticed, who “sought out the best seats at the table”? In what ways can that attitude show itself in school, at games, in the workplace, or even church work? What’s the difference between healthy assertiveness, so that you can use your gifts to bless others, and the kind of self-promotion Jesus warned against?

17 | Thu – You deserve a break today | Read [Philippians 2:5-11](#)

Think about ads you’ve seen or heard in the last week that use phrases like “you deserve it” or “you’re worth it”? Jesus built his life on values that were at odds with much of his culture. Consider how rich he was before giving it up to come to earth in human form. How did Jesus’ values differ from what we think of as the good life? In the light of history, do you believe Jesus was well-meaning but naïve—or was he right?

18 | Fri – Ambitions | Read [Matthew 20:20-28](#)

James and John’s mother had great ambitions for her sons. But Jesus asked, “Can you drink from the cup I am going to drink?” They did end up following Jesus to their end, James as the first martyr and John into exile. The good life may look differently for all of us but there is one prerequisite that Jesus modeled with his life “whoever wants to be greatest among you must become a servant.” How might this apply to your life today?

19 | Sat – Follow the leader | Read [John 10:7-18, especially verse 10](#)

Shepherds occupied one of the lowest social levels so Jesus chose a daring metaphor when he called himself the good shepherd. Sheep are not capable of caring for themselves and people are - or at least we think we are. Jesus laid down his life for us by his own choice. He offers to protect us, provide for our needs and give us the good life, a life fully lived...if we trust him enough to follow him, even through the hard times. Will you?