

Huddle

*Living in 4G - 4G Givers
June 23, 2013*

How would you define living an abundant life?

The Greek text in John 10:10 and 1 Corinthians 15:58 defines abundant as super abundant, excessive, beyond measure, enough to spare, above and beyond, surplus. For certain, an abundant life is one of excess. Pastor has been comparing our abundant life of excess to that of 4G cellular technology with extreme internet capabilities.

- The first week of this series, he gave us two mandates:
 - Living in gratefulness
 - Living in grace
- Last week, our men were challenged as Men of Steel
 - Growing
 - Guardian, Gatekeepers, Protectors, Watchmen
 - Godly

What impact has the 4G series had upon your life?

Let's Get Real!

This week, we discuss being 4G Givers.

2 Peter 1:2-8 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ

If God's power has given us all things pertaining to life and godliness and He has given us exceedingly great promises, then why does He require we add more?

There is no doubt God wants us to live a fruitful life but it goes deeper. God is a giver so He desires we become givers. Giving is not limited to finances; it's a lifestyle. When we live with the spirit of giving, when we give the Lord our tithes and our offerings, when we give to those in need, when we give of our time, our love, our resources, we are sowing seeds that God will make sure blossoms into a rich harvest! Not just of financial blessings, but rich in all aspects of life. He'll make sure the right doors open, the right people come into your life, and the right breaks are received.

How has God proven himself to you as a giver? What impact has it had upon your life?

You can experience a new level of God's joy, blessing and favor when you step out and begin giving of yourself to others in a greater capacity, learning how to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to meet the needs of those around you. Giving and serving are wrapped up in each other.

Our actions, behaviors, responses, disciplines, and overall lifestyle can be one of giving or one of greed. Today, you can make a choice in how you live your life.

While you can somewhat be a giver without being a server, you CANNOT be a server without being a giver. Let's look at Jesus challenge to serve.

Matthew 20:26-28 whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave —just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

When has Jesus recently challenged you to serve?

An abundant giver is an abundant liver! How will you commit to a lifestyle of giving?

- **Giving Resources.** The Macedonia believers set the bar of giving high when they joyfully gave beyond their ability during a time of trial and deep poverty. When we know our resources belong to God, it is easy for God to captivate our heart. Then, we sow bountifully and reap an even greater harvest.

What is God asking you to give—time, talent, gifts, etc?

- **Giving Hospitality.** Romans 12:9-12 challenges "Let love be without hypocrisy.Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another"

How is your hospitality increasing?

- **Giving Thanks.** A lifestyle of thanksgiving changes our perspective of God and others. When we are thankful, we begin to value those things more.

How has thanksgiving changed your perspective?

- **Giving God The Glory.** Psalm 96:7-8 says "Give to the Lord glory and strength. Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!"

Specifically, what in your life brings glory to God?

Walk it Out

What steps will you take this week to become an abundant 4G giver?