

**MORE
THAN**



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Enough

The New International Version is used in these questions.

1. What were the four types of givers did Pastor Rick name and what are the characteristics of each type? Which type do you think most Christians are?
2. If our goal as a Christian is to become more like Christ, what type must we strive to become? Why? When we talk about giving like Christ die, are we talking mainly about money? What are ways we give that are not monetary?
3. Pastor Rick said that a benefit of being an incredible giver is that our intimacy with God increases, what does that mean? Why do you think it happens? Read Matthew 6:1. How does putting God first in our lives change our hearts? What would this have to do with our giving?
4. What are the 12 benefits of being an incredible giver? Which one(s) stick out or resonate with you? Which ones have you experienced and how?
5. Pastor Rick said that when you are generous, it strengthens your faith. How does that work? If you really want to build your faith, what type of giving should you do? In what way is faith just like one of your physical muscles?
6. What does it mean to invest money? What do you think it would mean to invest in eternity? Can you invest money in eternity? Give an example. Read Mark 10:28-30. When Peter claimed that they had left everything to follow Jesus, how much did Jesus say they would receive back? What percentage of return on investment would that be? When did Jesus say they would receive this return?
7. Read Malachi 3:10-11. Challenge for us as Christians: Test God and see if He is being truthful about what He does for generous people in the coming year, grow your giving and see what He does.

Answers

- 1. The four types with their characteristics are: A. Initial giver—Those who are giving for the first time, their motives can vary greatly; B. Imperfect giver—Begin giving but never really understand why they are to give and give for the wrong reasons and usually quit giving eventually; C. Intentional giver—Those who make a commitment to give faithfully in obedience to God; D. Incredible giver—Those who give their entire lives to God and go beyond a given percentage and give as much as they can as often as they can. They give of their time, their abilities, and their money.*
- 2. If we are to become like Christ, like God, we must become a sacrificial giver. God gave us his son as a sacrifice for our sins, he gave up that which was most precious to him. The more I am like Christ, the more I am willing to give of myself. This is much more than money, it is everything we have. When we give of our time and abilities as well as our finances to serve other people.*
- 3. Intimacy means to know God well, to have a relationship with him where we are getting closer to him. Giving causes this to happen because as we give, it changes us to see how God loves everyone and wants to meet their needs, we begin to see people the way God sees them. Matthew 6:1 says that what you value as being the most important thing in life is where your love and passion will be. If we make serving God and his purposes as the most important thing in life, and give of ourselves to accomplish God's will, then our heart will grow closer to God.*
- 4. The 12 benefits are: a. God is honored when we give; b. Our intimacy with God grows; c. It makes us more like Jesus; d. It dismantles the temptation to be greedy; e. It strengthens our faith; f. It reveals our true character; g. It prepares us to be blessed by God; h. Our capacity for joy and happiness grows; i. Our influence as a leader grows; j. God multiplies my giving; k. God protects us; and l. We will have treasure waiting for us in heaven.*
- 5. When we give sacrificially, where we then need God to meet our needs, he always does, he is faithful to keep his promise. When we see God meet our needs, it shows us that we can trust him and our faith grows. Faith is just like a muscle in that the more you exercise it, the stronger it gets.*
- 6. To invest money means to give money now toward something with the hope of getting more in return later. To invest in eternity means to give something up now (time, money) in order that something will then last forever. An example of investing in eternity would be to give money or time to a missionary endeavor that wins people to Christ who then live forever in heaven. Jesus told Peter that he would receive 100 times more in return for anything he gave up to follow Christ. This is 10,000% return on investment. Jesus said the return would begin in this lifetime and continue on into eternity.*