

3 Small Steps to Giving Freely

“Give as freely as you have received”. These instructions of Jesus to his disciples were immediately followed by further ones: “Don’t take any money in your money belts – no gold, silver or even copper coins.” Jesus went on to include items of value having the potential to be traded. The disciples were to rely completely on God’s provision for their own needs. So, what was it then, that they were supposed to give? These **3 small steps** serve to remind us that our lives contain something of far greater value than simply currency and we are to freely share it with others.

Step 1. Give the Good News about Jesus. If you have heard about Jesus and have received him as your Lord and Saviour, then you can tell someone else about him. We tell our stories all the time: who we met at the shops; what we did on holiday. Ladies, we are particularly good at it! So, what about telling someone about how we came to know Jesus and the amazing difference he has made in our lives? Talking about Jesus is as easy as talking about the weather and far more interesting! We just have to practice a bit more for it to become second nature.

Step 2. Give an Opportunity to the Holy Spirit. If I asked, “Would you like to see God work a miracle of healing or deliverance?” Your likely answer would be a resounding, “Yes!” But if I added the words “...through you” to the sentence you may be more reluctant to respond. Yet God has chosen to work with us – his body – to bring about physical healing and deliverance in peoples’ lives. Jesus was moved with compassion for the hurting world around him and we should be too. So much so that we put aside our fears and embarrassment and allow the Holy Spirit to work those miracles so that people can be free from pain and torment.

Step 3. Give the Glory to God. In Luke 10, we read that when the 72 disciples returned from their missionary trip they were buzzing, being absolutely amazed at how, “even the demons were subject to us in your name”. Jesus quickly turned the focus back to his Father. It is thrilling to lead people in a decision for Jesus and see their lives transformed, sometimes instantaneously. Or for others to be healed right in front of our eyes when we pray for them. We are right to rejoice; only let’s make sure we are talking about what HE has done rather than what WE have done. “To God be the glory, great things HE hath done”.

As you consider the greatest sacrifice ever made, Jesus himself given for you, ask yourself and God, how you can respond and give freely of all that you have received. God will bless you as you do.