

# ESSENTIALS FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS

Week 5: Share with Others by Giving

Romans 12:1-9

Can you describe a gift you received which was small in price but very valuable to you?  
You can give time, money and skills – which of these is easiest for you to give, which is hardest?

## **A Living Sacrifice**

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Romans 12:1*

In Jesus' day, people offered an animal sacrifice on the altar. The animal took the punishment for our sin. This was a "dead" sacrifice. After Jesus, the Lamb of God, took away our sin on the Cross, God asks for a living sacrifice – namely your whole life.

How would your life be different if you saw it as a 24/7 offering to God?

## **Not Conformed but Transformed**

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2*

If your life is an offering to God it belongs to God. In His hands you are transformed. Yet the world tries to conform you in its image and squeeze you into its mold. How does the world do this and why do we let it? Why does Paul say God transforms us by the renewing of our minds?

What role does your attitude toward time, money or skills play in determining how you give?

## **Don't Think Less of Yourself, Think of Yourself Less**

*For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. Romans 12:3*

Why is humility an essential attitude when we give? Have you ever see a person give without it?  
How does that affect the gift?

## **Unwrap Your Gift and Use It**

*We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Romans 12:6-8*

God gives every Christian spiritual gifts to build up the whole Body of Christ. What do you think are your spiritual gifts? What do you love to do? What are you good at? How can you use your gifts to serve others? In what ways does Jesus want you to grow in your giving?

Who can you invite to join us next week? Finish in prayer asking God to help you apply His Word.