



Sharing Things
Living in the Image of God
 Module 05 Session 21

Banking Blessings Ministry
 San Antonio, Texas
 USA



Living in the Image of God

- God creates every person to represent him in human interactions with others
- Be for others what God would be for them if he lived with us in human form
- He provides resources for people to perform the responsibilities
- He blesses those that do


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Living in the Image of God

- Program seeks to understand
- Meaning of *Living in the Image of God*
- Resources God has provided to guide us
- Human responsibilities
- Benefits of *Living in the Image of God*

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What We Will Learn

- God associates sharing with sacrifice and compassion (providing for the need of others)
- Blesses those that share what they have to benefit others in need
- Based on message of Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Apostle Paul
- Christ teaching on compassion
- Isaiah 58:7; Luke 3:11
- Romans 12:13; 1 Timothy 6:17–19; Others

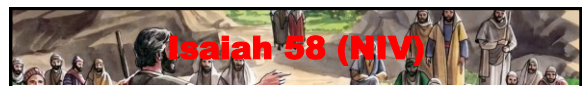
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Message of Prophet Isaiah

- God's message to Israel through Isaiah
- What God expects of people that worship him
- Sharing their food with the hungry
- Providing shelter for those in need of shelter
- Clothing those in need of clothing
- Being sensitive to the needs of neighbor
- Isaiah 58:6–7

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Isaiah 58 (NIV)

6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?

7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

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Message of John the Baptist

- People that came to him to be baptized
- Requested he explain his message of repentance
- To understand how they should prepare to meet the Messiah
- His response: Share what you have with neighbors in need
- Luke 3:7–11

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Luke 3 (NIV)

7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?”

8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

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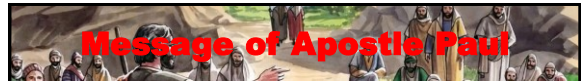
Luke 3 (NIV)

9 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

10 “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

11 John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

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Message of Apostle Paul

- Paul describes sharing as an aspect of love in his letter to Romans
- He describes the benefits of sharing in his letter to Timothy
- God blesses those that share what they have to benefit others in need
- Romans 12:9–13
- 1 Timothy 6:17–19

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Romans 12 (NIV)

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

13 Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

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1 Timothy 6 (NIV)

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

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1 Timothy 6 (NIV)

19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

- Paul's message of banking blessings through compassion
- Through Timothy
- To the church under Timothy's care

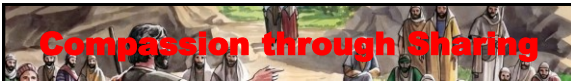
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Meaning of Sharing

- Sharing means caring for self-interest and interest of others simultaneously
- Recognize that two or more can benefit from a supply of goods or service
- Supply owned individually or collectively
- Willing to sacrifice something in order to extend the benefit to others
- Accepting less so others may get something

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Compassion through Sharing

- Accepting less so others may get something
- Implies giving up something to benefit others
- That is, making sacrifice to provide for others
- In sharing from source owned collectively
- Or source owned individually
- Making sacrifice to provide for others is an important aspect of compassion
- Sharing breeds compassion

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Christ Teaching on Compassion

- God blesses those that complete responsibilities in a call to compassion
 - Recognize a need placed on your path
 - Care for the needy
 - Commit to doing what you can
 - Persevere through to alleviate the need
- God blesses those that share what they have to benefit others in need
- Matthew 25:34–36

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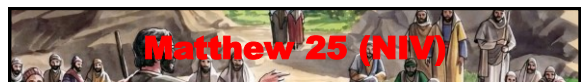


Matthew 25 (NIV)

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

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Matthew 25 (NIV)

36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

- Compassion through sharing
- Providing for others by giving up some of your time or material possession
- Or accepting less from a collective supply so others may get something
- Compassion through sharing pleases God

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Examples of Sharing

- Sharing can occur when two or more people have a valid interest in a supply of goods or service such as
- Food or drinks
- Taxi or bus
- Room in a house
- Public accommodation
- Copy of a book in a library

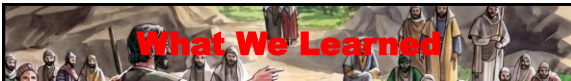
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Sharing Breeds Goodwill

- People mutually provide for each other
- When they share by accepting less to accommodate the interest of others
- Each earns blessing through the sharing
- Thus, sharing breeds goodwill
- A person provides opportunity to share goodwill when he/she provides something for people to share
- A saying among Ndigbo of Nigeria: he who brings kola brings life

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What We Learned

- Sharing often involves sacrificing something to benefit others in need
- A person earns blessing by sharing
- Discussed message from Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Paul
- Christ teaching on compassion
- Sharing brings goodwill because individuals earn blessing by accepting less to accommodate the interest of others

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What We Learned cont'd

- A person that provides food or drink for people to share has provided them opportunity to share goodwill
- Similar to a saying among Ndigbo of Nigeria that he who brings kola brings life
- Life comes from sharing kola because each participant accepts less so that others may get a share

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Sharing Things

Living in the Image of God M05S21

The study discusses the message of sharing from Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Apostle Paul to understand that sharing involves sacrificing something to benefit others in need. Sharing means caring for self-interest and the interest of others simultaneously, by recognizing that two or more can benefit from a supply of goods or service, either owned individually or collectively.

Consistent with Christ teaching on compassion, a person earns blessing by giving up something to provide for others in need; that is, blessing through sharing by accepting less to accommodate the interest of others. Thus, sharing breeds goodwill because God blesses those that sacrifice something to benefit others in need. Therefore, a person that provides something for people to share has provided them an opportunity to share goodwill. This philosophy of goodwill by sharing is captured by a saying among Ndigbo of Nigeria that he who brings kola brings life. Life comes from sharing kola because of goodwill that comes from each participant accepting less so that others may get a share.

This study seeks better understanding that God associates sharing with sacrifice and compassion. Sharing means caring for self-interest and the interest of others simultaneously and often involves accepting less so that others may get a share, from a supply of goods or service owned collectively or individually.

We discuss God's message regarding sharing from Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Apostle Paul: to understand that God blesses those that share what they have to benefit the interest of others. Sharing is equivalent to sacrificing something in order to provide for the need of others. Therefore, consistent with Christ teaching on compassion, God blesses those that share what they have to benefit others in need.

Sharing breeds goodwill, because people provide mutual opportunities to earn blessing when they share things. Thus, a person that provides something for people to share has provided them an opportunity to share goodwill. This philosophy of goodwill by sharing is captured by a saying among Ndigbo of Nigeria that he who brings kola brings life. Each participant in sharing kola often accepts less so that others may get a share, which means the participants make mutual sacrifice to extend the benefits to others. Life comes from sharing kola because of goodwill that comes from sharing.

Message of Prophet Isaiah

The message of Prophet Isaiah regarding sharing declares that God expects people that worship him to share their food with the hungry and provide shelter for those in need of shelter, clothing for those in need of clothing, and over all, be sensitive to the needs of others [Isaiah 58:6–7]: “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

Message of John the Baptist

John the Baptist provided a similar message when people that came to him to be baptized requested more information regarding his message of repentance. The people asked what they

should do to prepare for the Messiah. He responded with a message of sharing, that each person should share what they have with their neighbor in need: “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same” [Luke 3:11].

Message of Apostle Paul

Paul provided a similar message in his letter to Romans and letter to Timothy. He describes sharing as an aspect of love in his letter to Romans and describes the benefits of sharing in his letter to Timothy. He declared that God blesses those that share what they have to benefit others in need.

In his letter to Romans, he declares as follows [Romans 12:9]: “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.” Then he describes one way to show love [Romans 12:13]: “Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

His letter to Timothy includes a message of banking blessings through compassion: laying up treasure for yourself in heaven through generosity and sharing with those in need [1 Timothy 6:17–19]: “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

Meaning of Sharing

Sharing means caring for self-interest and the interest of others simultaneously, by recognizing that two or more can benefit from a supply of goods or service, either owned individually or collectively. Sharing means a person willing to sacrifice some of what he or she could get, so that others may get from the same supply. That is, accepting less so that others may get something.

Compassion through Sharing

Compassion through sharing means accepting less so that others may get something. That is, giving up something to benefit others, which amounts to making sacrifice to provide for others. The principle applies the same way, whether sharing from a source owned collectively, like a food buffet; or sharing from a source owned individually, like giving something from personal possession to help others in need. Both types of sharing involve making sacrifice to provide for others, which is an important aspect of compassion. That is, compassion through sharing.

Christ Teaching on Compassion

Based on Christ teaching on compassion, we understand the individual responsibilities in a call to compassion. When God calls your attention to the need of others: recognize the need, care for the needy, commit to doing what you can, and persevere in seeking to alleviate the need. God blesses those that complete responsibilities in a call to compassion. That is, God blesses those that share what they have to benefit others in need. The principle applies the same way to sharing time or sharing materials.

Christ teaches that compassion through sharing pleases God. That is, God is pleased when a person provides for others by giving up some of his or her time or material possession. Also, God is pleased when a person accepts less from a collective supply so that others may get something. Sharing pleases God.

A person earns blessing by sharing what he or she has to benefit others in need [Matthew 25:34–36]: “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’”

Sharing Breeds Goodwill

People mutually provide for each other when they share, by accepting less to accommodate the interest of others. Each earns blessing through the sharing. This way, sharing breeds goodwill: such as sharing food or drinks, taxi or bus, rooms in a house, public accommodation, copy of a book in a library, or other things.

A person provides opportunity to share goodwill when he or she provides something for people to share. This philosophy of goodwill by sharing is captured by a saying among Ndigbo of Nigeria that he who brings kola brings life. Each participant in sharing kola often accepts less so that others may get a share, which means the participants make mutual sacrifice to extend the benefits to others. Life comes from sharing kola because of goodwill that comes from sharing.

Summary of What We Learned

The study discusses the message of sharing from Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Apostle Paul to understand that sharing involves sacrificing something to benefit others in need. Sharing means caring for self-interest and the interest of others simultaneously, by recognizing that two or more can benefit from a supply of goods or service, either owned individually or collectively.

Consistent with Christ teaching on compassion, a person earns blessing by giving up something to provide for others in need; that is, blessing through sharing by accepting less to accommodate the interest of others. Thus, sharing breeds goodwill because God blesses those that sacrifice something to benefit others in need. Therefore, a person that provides something for people to share has provided them an opportunity to share goodwill. This philosophy of goodwill by sharing is captured by a saying among Ndigbo of Nigeria that he who brings kola brings life. Life comes from sharing kola because of goodwill that comes from each participant accepting less so that others may get a share.

Key Words: Compassion, Goodwill, Isaiah, John the Baptist, Paul, Sharing