

Jesus himself said: '**It is more blessed to give than to receive**'. Have you found this to be true?

US researchers **say** that the old **adage** "**it's better to give than to receive**" is correct because spending money on **others** or **giving to charity** puts a **bigger smile** on our face **than** buying things for ourselves.



Our **giving** is a reminder of the blessings **God** gives us and gave to us through His Son, Jesus Christ, that **everything** that we have comes from God.

People of God give to God because of their **gratitude** to him. We give back to God what is God's so that through our gifts the love of God can become a tangible reality in our world. Our giving is a reminder of the blessings God gives us and gave to us through his Son, Jesus Christ.

Things to remember and reflect on:

- ❖ **God is a giver.** We give because God gave. Giving is one way we reflect **God's character**. We observe God's giving nature throughout the Bible and in the gift of his son, **Jesus Christ**, as well as in the countless blessings we receive every day.
- ❖ **Giving makes us happy.** We are created in the image of a **Giver**, therefore, the desire to give is rooted in our very being. So, it makes sense that when we give, we will be happy.
- ❖ **Giving makes us healthier and live longer.** Giving is good for our health and life expectancy. Many studies have shown that generous people tend to be healthier. Giving (money and time) is linked to many positive benefits:
- ❖ **Giving expresses our trust in God.** Remember, God is our **provider**. He provides us with what we need. As we give, we express our faith in God. God **knows** what we need, and He **will** provide for us. Giving is one way in which we express our trust in God.
- ❖ **Giving advances the Kingdom of God.** We support many businesses every day. We help them to make a profit, keep their lights on, and pay their employees. How do we do this? By purchasing their products or services. Let us not forget that we **participate** in the advancement of **God's work** by giving money, making donations, and volunteering.

God loves a cheerful giver.