

God's plan was to bring into being a host of sons and daughters whom He would indwell; through whom He would live and manifest Himself; and in and through whom Christ would reign supreme. We are the beneficiaries of that plan. God, in His love and grace, has made us a part of His plan. But we are not the center of it; Christ is.

Dan Stone

The average person in the world today, without faith and without God and without hope, is engaged in a desperate personal search throughout his lifetime. He does not really know where he has been. He does not really know what he is doing here and now. He does not know where he is going. The sad commentary is that he is doing it all on borrowed time and borrowed money and borrowed strength; and he already knows that in the end he will surely die! Man, made more like God than any other creature, has become less like God than any other creature. Created to reflect the glory of God, he has retreated sullenly into his cave; reflecting only his own sinfulness. Certainly it is a tragedy above all tragedies in this world that man, made with a soul to worship and praise and sing to God's glory, now sulks silently in his cave.

A.W. Tozer

You can always give without loving, but you can never love without giving.

Amy Carmichael

Generosity is impossible apart from our love of God and of His people. But with such love, generosity not only is possible but inevitable.

John MacArthur

There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving, and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, "I have to"; duty giving says, "I ought to"; thanksgiving says, "I want to."

Robert Rodenmeyer

God is God; you are but one of His creatures. Your only joy is to be found in obeying Him, your true fulfillment is to be found in worshipping Him, your only wisdom is to be found in trusting and knowing Him.

Sinclair Ferguson

Spirituality: False and True

Luke 20:41-21:4

Introduction: What does real spirituality look like, and what is at its core? In this 3-part set of instructions, Jesus warns against those who use God for their advantage, even as He makes a heroine out of a greatly disadvantaged widow. What we learn today is essential: Our spiritual health is easily measured as we answer this question: *Am I using God, or is He using me?*

The Connection between theology and life ...

Who is God?

Who am I?

How should I live?

Jesus and the Religious Leaders

Luke 20:41-44

Defining their theology

Son of David: *military leader with whom we will rule*

Lord of All: *sovereign master before whom we will bow*

The Scribes: A Model of False Spirituality

Luke 20:45-47

Describing their lives

An inflated view of self

A selfish use of religious authority

A greater condemnation

The Widow: A Model of True Spirituality

Luke 21:1-4

Defining her theology: *abandoned to God*

Describing her life: *great generosity*

Applying these truths to life ...

Am I using God for self-advantage, or abandoning myself to His advantage?

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Kids Notes

Spirituality, False and True

The Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

1. *Jesus challenged the religious leaders of His day about:*

- A. their view of the Lordship of Christ.
- B. their hypocrisy.
- C. their pride.
- D. all of the above.

2. *Jesus criticized the scribes for:*

- A. praying long prayers to look more spiritual.
- B. giving generously to the work of God.
- C. wearing long hair.
- D. none of the above.

3. *Jesus said the widow gave more than the rest because:*

- A. she gave \$ 3 million.
- B. she actually gave all of her life.
- C. no one else had any money.
- D. all of the above.

For Family Discussion: How does believing that God will take care of us free us up to be generous? What can your family give to the special offering on June 1st?

Space to Doodle

Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

GENEROSITY _____	TOTAL: _____
TRUST _____	_____
SPIRITUALITY _____	_____
LORD _____	_____
HEART _____	_____
HUMILITY _____	_____

Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

GENEROSITY TRUST HUMILITY TRUST SPIRITUALITY LORD HEART
 DAVID PSALMS SCIBES SYNAGOGUE ROBES WIDOW LEPTA
 TREASURY SURPLUS POVERTY PRAYERS APPEARANCES BEWARE
 FOOTSTOOL ENEMIES RELIANCE GOD THEOLOGY DEFINE FAITH

P B I L O A S Z Y C P V X P Q Y A
 S K E V O M G R U O Y O C J Y T P
 S P Q W L O U B V L E P T A A I P
 U O I A A S T E S R E Y A R P L E
 R E S R A R R S T R A E H M G I A
 P P Z E I T E G T S E E E E R M R
 L M R U Y T E U G O G A N Y S U A
 U T Z T Y Q U A T T O E T T E H N
 S C I B E S K A R H R F R L I D C
 R E L I A N C E L O E U W S M E E
 K T O F W D G D S I S O F E E F S
 H N R O A O I I X T T C L B N I M
 R L D W D I T V F Q E Y X O E N O
 H I K Y W Y T R A V G I B R G E K
 W Q C I H E C H O D C O S T M Y L