

Church of Christ

...Heart to Heart ...

She placed two small copper coins into the treasury, and the Lord responded with these words, “Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of them; for they all out of their surplus put into the offering, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on.” (Luke 21:1-4)

The lady came to Jesus with an alabaster vial of costly perfume and poured it on His head. She was scolded for “wasting” this, rather than selling it and giving the money to the poor (Mark 14:1-9). This woman loved! She showed her love in her giving.

Both of these show us the heart of being a giver. Without thought of cost, love motivates people to give. People can give without love, but love always motivates givers. Do you ever wonder if you are giving too much to God?

A little boy told his mother that he didn't want to put change in the collection plate anymore. She asked him why? He simply stated he wanted to put in a bill, not change! She opened up her billfold to let him look. There were several bills of one dollar, five dollars and a twenty. The boy pulled out the twenty and put in the plate as it came around. The mother couldn't say a word. How can you tell a child that he is giving too much to the Lord?

It amazes me how giving children are. They don't calculate, figure or think about giving. When they are touched by a need, they will give everything they have saved away, without any thought or hesitation. In fact, a child will even give you their piggy bank if they thought you needed it! I've known children to offer their toys and other things just to help if someone needed it.

The little girl heard her mom and dad talking about how tight things were. She went to her money bank, brought in all she had and set it on the table in front of them. She asked, “Will this help?”

What do we learn? We, as adults, sit down and figure. We calculate what we have, take note of percentages and decide what to give. It seems many times in the end, we want to know how much we have left for ourselves. I know I've been there! How many of us give (not just money, but anything) because it's needed, without thinking about the cost? It makes me think, is my giving really generous, out of a heart of love or out of a sense of duty?

Jesus said, “*it is more blessed to give than to receive.*” (Acts 20:35) Jesus knew how we needed to be converted and become like children to enter the kingdom (Matt. 18:1-3). How do you go about giving to the One who was crucified for you? Does that take a careful calculation? Think about it!!!