Pastor Notes: February 2, 2025

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Luke 6:38 (NIV)

That's not just anybody talking, but a blessed command straight from Jesus. He is telling you and me to be a giver, to become known, and have a reputation of a giver. For that to happen, we need three things, the heart of a giver, the faith of a giver, and the hands of a giver.

- Spiritually, our hearts are both mirrors and construction projects. Jesus tells us, **"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"** Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV), and "**Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander** Matthew 15:19 (ESV). Proverb's advice is, **"Do not eat the bread of a miser, nor desire his delicacies; For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he. 'Eat and drink!' he says to you, but his heart is not with you. The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, and waste your pleasant words** Proverbs 23:6-8 (NKJV).

  This is why we need to continually work on our hearts, **"Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it *flow* the springs of life"** Proverbs 4:23 (NASB). If we naturally did what God wants us to do, we would not have any need for commands like, "give …," "love your neighbor …," … However, our hearts are contaminated by sin, **"The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; Who can understand it?"** Jeremiah 17:9 (NASB), and thus these commands tell us our hearts need work, make them lifelong construction projects. The good news is that God not only knows our hearts, but He also knows how to clean and reshape them.

- There is no cleaning up and reshaping our hearts into Christlikeness without faith, without trusting God and what He tells us to do, **"It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him"** Hebrews 11:6 (NLT2). The faith we need on the construction site of our hearts and lives believes that God's will, ways, and means are best, it trusts God's promises and wisdom, and it obeys His directions and commands. On Highway 120 going towards Yosemite, between Big Oak Flat and Groveland is what the locals call the "Scar," a big construction site that has been languishing for decades, not because there were no plans, but because the plans never got carried out. The problem isn't with God's plans, they are good and perfect, but we need to both trust and implement them.

- It is a lot easier to be the giver God wants us to be when we have the heart and faith of a giver, but eventually, we need to actually give. Jesus had the following to say about the hands of a giver, **"When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you"** Matthew 6:3-4 (ESV). Notice He said, "When" not "if" you give because it is not optional in living a godly, God-glorifying life. Secondly, He tells us that sincere giving doesn't look for recognition, is humble, has pure motives, isn't trying to get something, and is satisfied with God's approval. A long time ago a man donated some building materials to the church. Years later he called me to remind me because his daughter was getting married and wanted to use the church facilities as a venue and me to be the officiating minister. His left hand was calling in his giving chips. The kind of giving Jesus wants us to practice has no need to keep a ledger, it knows how to let it go for the sheer joy of giving and the pleasure and glory it brings to God.

Lord, please teach us, help us, and give us the heart, faith, and hands of a giver.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans

Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

Lynnette Barrera, Jacob (joining Coast Guard), Capt. Dean Potter (dozer operator headed for Pacific Palisades & Janice Joyce's grandson),
All those fighting fires in California, our country's leadership

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray, Farney, Peter, Jimmy, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Noah Martin, John Michael Chavez, Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Brian Sula, Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen, Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski, Christopher Sula, Dylan Briggs

CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862 and/or e-mail **Judy Mahar** at **ldpbcprayer@gmail.com** with your prayer requests.

Church Board Members:

Hans Frei - Pastor , Richard Mayes - Head Deacon , Chuck Arndt, Barb Deibler, Jerry Lyman, Sarah Storey, April Wilcox

Lake Don Pedro Baptist Church
Men's Discipleship
Tuesday's 6:00PM – 7:30PM
Current Lessons: Early Heresies

2 TIMOTHY 2:15 STUDY EARNESTLY TO PRESENT YOURSELF APPROVED TO GOD, A WORKMAN THAT DOES NOT NEED TO BE ASHAMED, RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH. (MKJV).

Intention: To become, sustain, and develop disciples for the Kingdom of God in obedience to Christ's great commission. The salvation of souls is principle. One must have a passion for the lost, understanding the torments that await those who reject the Christ and his doctrines of the gospel. The gospel is the power of God used as His means to save sinners. We as his disciples must equip ourselves with the sound doctrines of Christ. We must study and prepare to explain to all in the world to observe Christ's teachings, and who He is in His human nature and divinity. To study Christ is to be a disciple, to disciple others, is to teach Christ, to study and teach Christ, is to show yourself approved unto God, as His disciples.

Reflections: by Yskander A. Saucedo: From the Christian perspective, a heresy is any teaching rejected by the Christian community as contrary to scripture or established orthodox doctrine, (Dictionary of Theological Terms). Most heresies are declared heretical because they change the nature of God, the human, or divine nature, or personhood of Jesus Christ. The most notable heresies of the early church were Gnosticism, Modalism, Arianism, and Pelagianism. Knowledge of these early doctrines are still relevant in our day. The movements have dwindled and are no longer organized in its historical sense, but their teachings are still subtle in current occultic movements, false religions, and some denominations within our Christian communities. They use the same biblical verses and terms we use, but they apply different definitions and infer remnants of paganism. They may claim Christianity and to believe and know Jesus Christ, but in reality, change the entire nature of Jesus Christ. Some deny His human nature or his divine nature. If we change the nature of God or Christ, we change the gospel and adopt another gospel, aka, a heresy, and a false gospel will save no one. (2 Pet 2:1, Mat 7:15, 2 Tim 3:13-14).

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Sermon Notes:

February Announcements

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesday @ 6:00 P.M.
- Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages @ 7:00 P.M.
- Food Ministry - 1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday 9-11 AM
- Women's Ministry - Wednesday @10:00AM
- GriefShare: Wednesday's, March 5th- April 23rd @ 6:30 PM

BUNCO – Monday, February 3 @ 11:30 am

Fellowship Refreshments were provided by:
" Hans' *Class* "

Thank you

Next week "Dennis'" class is up!!

"2025 Tanzania Mission Trip"
November 2nd - 18th
(See Pastor Hans for further details)

The Church Number 209-852-2029 is no longer active.

If you need to reach Pastor Hans or have questions involving church business call:
209-247-9235 (Hans)
209-628-2173 (Jannett)

Giving

January 26, 2025

Offering:
$1,037.00

Facilities:
$5.00

Food:
$40.00

Attendance:
81

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:
9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:
10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:
6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday Food Ministry:
9:00 AM -11:00 AM

Wednesday:
Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM

Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

Saturday: Youth Hang-Out 6-9 PM

Yearly Bible Reading Plan - 2025
February 3rd - February 9th

DAY 1 - Jer. 47-78
(Psalms 3)

DAY 2 - Jer. 49-50
(Psalms 4)

DAY 3 - Jer. 51-52
(Psalms 5)

DAY 4 - Ezra 1-3
(Psalms 6)

DAY 5 - Ezra 4-5
(Psalms 7)

DAY 6 - (Psalms 8)

DAY 7 - (Psalms 9)

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Give

Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."
Luke 6:38 (NIV)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.