

The Gift of Receiving

We often remember and quote the bible verse in Acts where the Apostle Paul quotes Jesus, saying, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," emphasizing that true joy and happiness come from generosity and helping the weak, an example Paul set for the Ephesian elders.

We often talk about the beauty of giving, but Scripture also teaches us something just as important: receiving is a gift too. 1 Corinthians 4:7

“What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as though you did not?”

Receiving requires humility. It acknowledges that we are not self-sufficient and that God often meets our needs through others.

Jesus Himself lived this truth. He accepted water from the Samaritan woman, hospitality from Mary and Martha, and even help carrying His cross. Scriptures in Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:21, and Luke 23:26 mention that a man named Simon of Cyrene was compelled by soldiers to carry Jesus' cross for Him on the way to Golgotha. While John's Gospel (John 19:17) says Jesus carried His own cross, the other Synoptic Gospels highlight Simon's assistance as Jesus was weakened.

To receive is not weakness—it is trust.

A Short Story

There was an elderly man in a small town who was known for always helping others—fixing roofs, shoveling snow, lending tools. One winter, he slipped and broke his leg. Neighbors came by with meals, but he kept saying, *“I’m fine. I don’t want to be a burden.”*

Finally, one neighbor gently replied, *“You gave us the gift of helping for years. Please let us receive the gift of giving back.”*

That day, the man realized something powerful: **by refusing to receive, he was actually denying others the blessing God intended for them.**

Spiritual Truth

“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.” —

James 4:10

Receiving teaches us humility, gratitude, and connection. It reminds us that God’s grace flows in many directions—sometimes through our hands, and sometimes into them.

Closing Encouragement

If God is offering help, love, forgiveness, or provision today—don’t push it away.

Receive it with gratitude.

Because **receiving is not failure... it is faith.**

Prayer:

Lord, teach us not only how to give generously, but how to receive humbly.

Help us recognize Your grace when it comes through others. Amen.