

Week 17
110/255

Transforming Daily
“ . . . It is more blessed to give than to receive . . . ”
Acts 20:35

For a long time I have been saying that if everyone comes to church to be served by one another, than no one will be served, but if everyone comes to church to serve one another, than everyone will be served, and served many times by everyone who comes. I'm certain that this isn't all that Jesus had in mind when He said that, "it is more blessed to give than to receive," but I believe that it shares the same sense of privilege and responsibility.

Notice too, that while it is more blessed to give, it is still blessed to receive. I would go so far as to say that part of the reason that it is more blessed to give than to receive is in the experience of the one who now gives being once the one who was blessed to receive. Having been in need and receiving the generous attention of those who were inclined to give, that individual is now more sensitive to the needs of others for the same reason. Therefore, by comparison, it is more blessed to give than to receive. In other words, while it is an act of humility to receive, it is an act of submission to give.

Another reason that giving is more blessed than receiving is because giving is harder to do, especially if you don't have much from which to give. Giving is hard work because it's usually voluntary and after one has already given what is required of them in the first place. Giving is never to be devoid of prayer and good stewardship. Time and material resources are usually the medium of exchange. Therefore, proper motivation has to be established before anyone is usually ready to give.

I've been saved since 1976 and I have been serving in some ministry capacity since 1979, and I still don't have this spiritual discipline figured out. However, the single spiritual discipline that I have observed necessary in giving is faith, and maybe that is why, while more difficult, it is more blessed to give than to receive.