

## **Magnanimous Living**

(Ideas taken from a sermon series by Bill Johnson, Prosperity with a Purpose, and Craig Groeschel, Jesus and We)

### **Introduction**

**When you think one thing and God thinks different, only one of you needs to change. Only one can change, and it is not Him. Bill Johnson**

As- pursue God- prayer/worship/His Word- find areas where our thinking- different from God's. We should always be in a process of ...

**2 Cor 10:5 ... taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,**

February Good News Challenge will help to expose areas of erroneous thinking.

We will gain greater insight into how God thinks. I want to delve into an area where our thinking often needs to be adjusted/expanded.

**Magnanimous Living** (start 3wk series)

Magnanimous- being very generous or forgiving

**Matthew 28:18–20 (NASB95)**

**<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**

**<sup>19</sup>“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,**

**<sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”**

God has called/commissioned us to have an impact in people's lives that ultimately changes the course of human history.

P David will be building on this end of February-  
God wants us to see life in a larger framework.  
We must adjust our thinking- think like God thinks

**Gen 1:28 ... “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it ...**

From the beginning God has called us to partner w/Him- we have a responsibility to the nations.

**The light that shines the farthest, shines the brightest at home. Unknown Missionary**

God has called us to be passionate/intentional about building His Kingdom at home/nations.

Brighter burn at home- further our light will extend

**Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”**

The purpose of the HS is to empower us to live a godly life and to fulfill our mission/assignment.

**The Gospel is not occupying space and time until Jesus returns. We have responsibilities to bring the reality of heaven to earth.**

Jesus modeled bringing heaven to earth while living on earth-Why? so we could do the same.

Not all of us are called to GO to- remotest parts of the earth, but we can all shine brightly at home in such a way it will also affect the nations.

**1 Cor 15:42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body;**

**1 Corinthians 15:45–46 (NASB95)**

**45**So also it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living soul.” The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

**46**However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

We find the idea here of first the natural and then the spiritual- connection between the two.

**Luke 16:10–11 (NASB95)**

**10**“He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.

**11**“Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?

Unrighteous wealth (mammon)- money- the spirit behind the economic systems of this world.

Economy of the world and God operate on different principles.

True riches- eternal values/purposes of God and His Kingdom, God’s presence/power in life.

If we are not faithful w/unrighteous wealth- how can we be entrusted w/true riches of heaven?

**God is calling us to be faithful in the natural so we can impact the eternal.**

We are called into a partnership where we see natural obedience bring about spiritual release.

God wants to prosper us- not in the sense of accumulating great wealth-but in-sense that ...

>He will provide for our needs and

>enable us- give to effect eternity in the lives of others- change the world

**i.e. Joanie Taylor- takes young neighbor boy out for pizza/brings him to church.**

Not everyone is called to GO and be a missionary in Guatemala or Haiti- but ...

We can all take that which is natural- money, and by our giving, cause it to become ...

>true supernatural riches that affect

>the course of history in these nations.

God's favor upon us is not for our own self-promotion, but so we can benefit others.

There is a lot of erroneous teaching in the church about prosperity- it is unbiblical to ...

>view financial prosperity as a mark of spirituality

>embrace poverty as a way of life for a Christian (not- mark of spiritual maturity)

>say- if you give, God will give 10 fold back

Consider the Apostle John's prayer ...

**3 Jn 2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.**

Again- we see a connection between the ...

>natural- prosper/be in good health, and

>supernatural/unseen- as your soul prospers

**Pr10:22 It is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich, And He adds no sorrow to it.**

When blessing comes as a result of us pursuing the Lordship of Jesus Christ- no sorrow.

When blessing comes as the result of us pursuing money- it will cost- there is a price to pay.

Look at the rich- multiple marriages, addictions ... they pursued one thing and got another.

There is a prospering that comes as we pursue Kingdom values first and foremost.

As we build our lives around- Lordship of Jesus Christ we build something that has no sorrow.

Jesus said ...

**Matthew 6:31–33 (NASB95)**

**31“Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’**

**32“For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.**

**33“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**

Blessing and increase are the result of correct priorities- pursuing Kingdom values first.

Jesus- seek first the KofG (unseen) and all these things (seen) will be added to you.

The unseen (supernatural) world has a greater reality than the seen (natural) world.

There are two major systems in the world ...

Religious system

God is central but He is impersonal and powerless, performance over relationship.

Political system

Man is at the center and everything revolves around man and his needs.

Contrast these with ...

KofG

The KofG has a King, Jesus Christ- its foundation is the absolute Lordship of Christ.

When we build on the absolute Lordship of Christ  
we build something that does not have sorrow.  
When we pursue God first He adds blessing to it.  
Why? So we can use it for ourselves- NO- to  
bless others, help the poor, affect nations.

Consider the story of Israel ...

>slaves in Egypt (type of the world)- 400yrs

>when delivered from Egypt- given all of  
Egypt's gold- sign of God's blessing

What did they do with the gold from Egypt- they  
got distracted and built a golden calf.

**Ex 32:8 "They have quickly turned aside  
from the way which I commanded them.  
They have made for themselves a molten  
calf, and have worshiped it and have  
sacrificed to it and said, 'This is your  
god, O Israel, who brought you up from  
the land of Egypt!' "**

When we receive the blessings of God in our life  
it has the potential to be used ...

>for eternal purposes to shape the course  
of human history- benefit/bless others

>to build a golden calf

I must take care not to allow my values to shift ...

>from what is important to God, to

>putting my trust in- blessings rather than God

**2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (NASB95)**

**<sup>6</sup>Now this I say, he who sows sparingly  
will also reap sparingly, and he who  
sows bountifully will also reap  
bountifully.**

We see here the principle of God blessing  
generosity.

**<sup>7</sup>Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**

We have choices we can make to give/not give.

**<sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;**

**<sup>9</sup>as it is written, "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, His righteousness endures forever."** <sup>10</sup>Now He who

**supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;**

**<sup>11</sup>you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.**

v10- Seed for sowing and bread for food.

Bread is the portion God gives you to use to sustain your life and your family.

Seed is what you plant for a future harvest.

If I plant my bread it rots- produces nothing.

If I eat my seed I will not have a crop next year to provide for myself/bless others/invest in KofG.

This is a picture of the life cycle of generosity.

As we sow we build towards a future harvest for our needs and to bless others/change nations.

## Conclusion

Looking back at 2 Cor 9.11 ...

**2 Cor 9:11 (NLT) Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.**

When the church at Corinth gave generously- it produced thankfulness towards God in Paul/those who would receive- offering.

Giving to others can warm the affection of people's hearts towards the Lord.

Generosity/giving should be a priority in our lives.

Generous- Latin- meaning noble, magnanimous.

It is showing a readiness to give more of something than is strictly necessary/expected.

Originally spoke of someone of noble birth/stock- courageous, quick to give, not mean spirited.

**God is calling us to be a people of noble stock. Courageous in our pursuit of God, generous in our giving to God and others, resulting in eternal fruit that changes the nations.**

Whether you are called to GO or called to stay, let your life burn so brightly that it affects- world.

Let your light affect your Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the remotest parts of the earth.

## **Temp 20150208**

Introduce/teach about the Tithe

Israel in the wilderness vs in the promised land  
talents and minas

Often we see the spiritual as having less reality or substance than the natural.

When Jesus walked through the walls of the upper room-

He had more substance than the walls.

The spiritual is more the reality than the natural.

### **Luke 16:10–12 (NASB95)**

**<sup>10</sup>“He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.**

**<sup>11</sup>“Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?**

**<sup>12</sup>“And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own?**

v12- discuss with the tithe

### **Proverbs 11:24–25 (NASB95)**

**<sup>24</sup>There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more, And there is one who withholds what is justly due, and yet it results only in want.**

Untitled, 11/9/13

**25The generous man will be prosperous,  
And he who waters will himself be  
watered.**

**Temp 20150215**

Perhaps Craig Groeschel's teaching on irrational generosity.