

Andy continued the third message in his series of seven messages on "Big, Big, God" by discussing how giving our God is. God owns it all, everything, and yet He is willing to give you all that you need for abundant life. He created everything and is eager to share it with you, but there are conditions. God's provision is available to you when you are willing to see things His way. God expects you to be like He is and to freely give to others part of what has been given to you. What you give to others and to God represents your very life itself. God sacrificed His life for you. Love responds by wanting to give part of your life back to Him in return for His sacrifice. In every way, the things you do in the "here and now" are the only things you can control. You cannot control the future, but your giving to meet the needs of others will encourage those people. Sacrificial giving will focus your attention on God and allow you to be transformed from the inside out into the kind of person God wants you to be. Your unselfish giving allows God to set aside a greater reward in heaven for you also. In turn, God promises to meet your "needs" (as long as they are not merely your "wants"). He does not promise to make up for the consequences of laziness, but will bless sincere effort with success. He does not promise to wipe out the kind of indebtedness that springs from following the world's "Must Have This Now" philosophy, but He will set the captive free from bondage. Out of His limitless supply of all things, God is committed to providing all that you need to fulfill the purpose He has planned for your life.

How will you choose to respond to the gifts God gives you? Will you reach out a hand to "grasp" and "hold", or will you reach out an "open hand" to share the blessing?