

Back to the Books – Season 2 – **Week 6**
Give – for giving is living.... Matthew verses

So the theme is **“Give – for giving is living.”** We will continue with the verse cards that were passed out last week. There are more here if people need them.

We did Matthew 5:16. 3 simple phrases in one sentence... (repeat the verse)...

**16 “Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works and
give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”**

Next, we covered, Matthew 5:42 **“Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you.”** (RSV) That section of Scripture teaches what this world does not... to ‘love your enemy,’ ‘bless them that curse you’.... ‘pray for those who despitefully use you and persecute you’..... and we remember that Jesus voluntarily gave his Life for us... so that we might live.

The last verse was from Matthew 6:11, **“Give us this day our daily bread;”** So simple.. yet, so profound that God provides for us to live... now we just need to recognize how. (Story.... ‘How to Live’.... Volume 8 of a 20 volume dictionary set... covering the words from ‘How’ to the word ‘Live’..... not a lot of direction there... but we have great examples in the Bible.)

This week we start with Matthew 7:02... a great verse for either the start of your morning or as a reflection on how your day went... and what could have been done differently or even better. **“For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.”** (We have already learned Matthew 7:7 **“Ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it shall be opened to you.”**)

This verse sounds a bit like the ‘golden rule’ which is from Matt 7:12 (NIV) “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.” That comes just a few short verses later that where we are in 7:02. The first ½ of the verse is about judgement.. what we pronounce or use, will be used in judging us. I have not been one to try to judge other people... too many variables... too many situations and circumstances which I cannot even begin to understand. And God challenges us not to judge other people... after all that is His job and He does it with perfect knowledge and fairness. It is the second half of the verse which needs our attention this morning. That says that **‘the measure you give will be the measure you get’**. Pastor Sr. and others have reminded us of a ‘mother’s way of defining sharing’.... One child gets to divide the item is 2... the other child get’s first choice. My own illustration on this is patterned after a story and an example Pastor Sr. told in Bible class (the Thursday 6:30am one) maybe 15-20 years ago.. but I still remembered it.... Recently, I was returning to SF to get on the Bay Bridge... Cash Only line up ahead looks open... I drive for

