

**“Now Mary arose in those days
and went into the hill country
with haste...” - Luke 1:39**



The Gift of Giving

3rd Sunday of Kiahk

The Types of Gifts We Give



1. Material Gifts (Alms and Offerings)

- “Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.” (Matt. 5:42)
- The widow of Zarephath
- *“The bread in your cupboard belongs to the hungry; the coat unused in your closet belongs to the one who needs it.” (St. Basil the Great)*



2. Gifts of Service

- “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” (Gal. 6:2)
- EX: The Good Samaritan



3. Spiritual Gifts

- EX: The Rich Young Ruler
- “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another.” (Col. 3:16)
- EX: Zacchaeus

4. Personal Sacrifices

- Time, attention
- Forgiveness
- Empathy
- “Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.” (Rom. 12:15)
- Encouragement
- EX: St. Barnabas

5. Sacrificial Giving

- “This poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.” (Luke 21:3-4)
- “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” (John 15:13)



A large, solid orange oval with a thin white border, centered on a white background.

How Should We Give?

1. Give with Love and Compassion

- “Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor... but have not love, it profits me nothing.” (1 Cor. 13:3)
- EX: The Good Samaritan



2. Give Generously

- “He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” (2 Cor. 9:6)
- “And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.” (Matt. 5:41)
- “*If you possess something that you cannot give away, you do not possess it; it possesses you.*” (Abba Isaac)





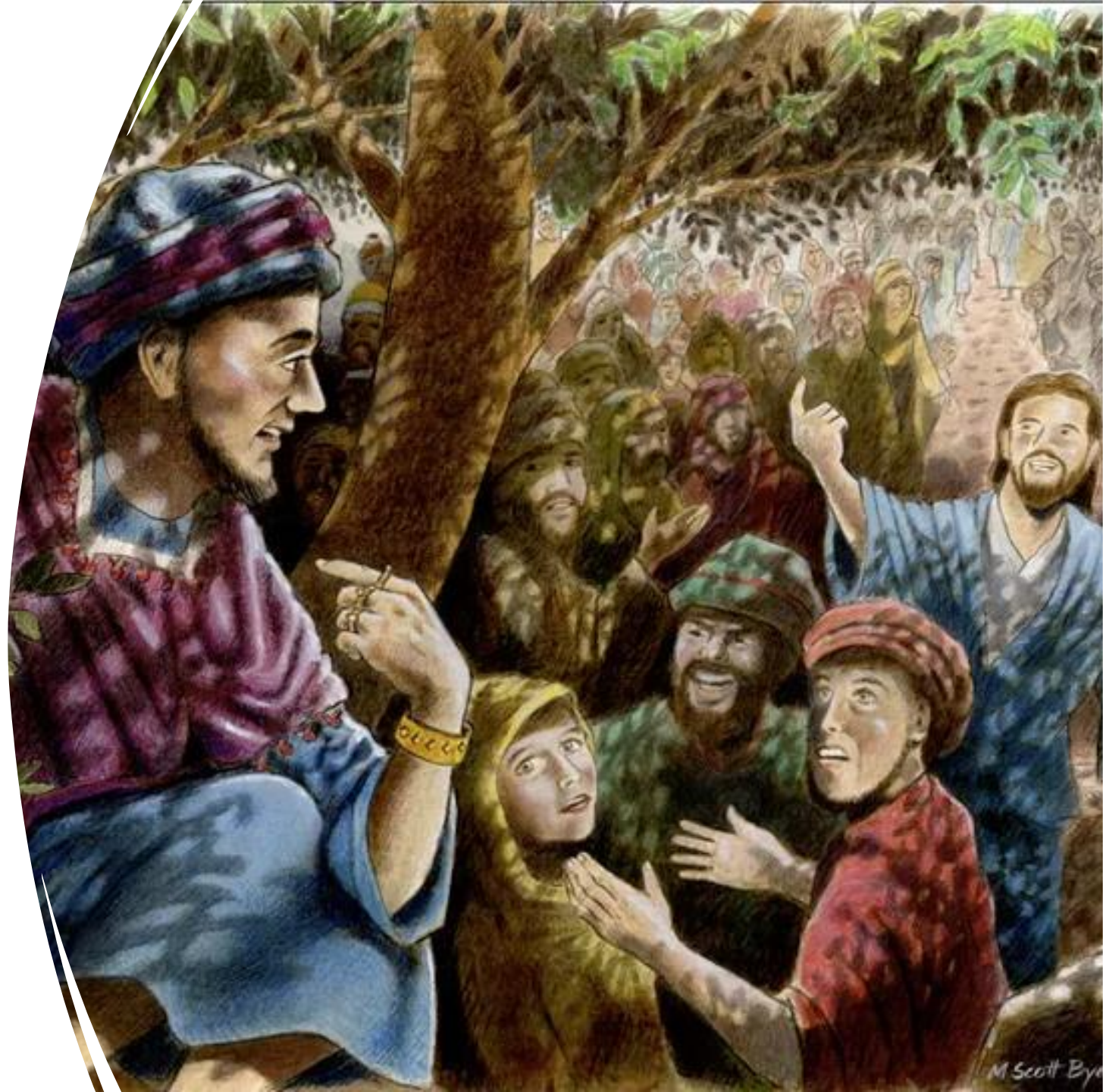
3. Give Secretly and Humbly

**“Do not let your left hand know
what your right hand is doing.”
(Matt. 6:3-4)**



4. Give Joyfully

- “God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Cor. 9:7)
- EX: Zacchaeus





5. Give Without Expecting Anything in Return

- “Love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return.” (Luke 6:35)
- EX: St. Nicholas of Myra
- EX: Tobit – burying the dead

The Blessings of Giving

1. Receiving God's Blessings in Return

- “But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.” (Matt. 6:3-4)



2. Joy and Contentment

- “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35)
- “*We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.*” (Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister)

3. Spiritual Growth and Transformation

“Let them do good, that they may be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share.” (1 Tim. 6:17-18)

“Do not neglect the poor, for through them your heart will draw near to God.”
(Abba Poemen)