

Broad Street Church of Christ
 433 E. Broad St.
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 www.broadstreetchurchofchrist.org



Teach Your Children To Be Givers

It's no secret that we live in a materialistic society. The mainstream media constantly bombards us with advertisements of products that we "need." My generation has perfected the art of "keeping up with the Joneses." In fact, most individuals my age wanted to start their marriages with the same material possessions that it took our parents thirty years to amass. And so, we purchased it all—on credit.

We are a generation of consumers and takers. Sadly, this selfishness is now being passed on to future generations, as children want more and more. Holidays such as Christmas are no longer about family and memories, but rather they revolve around commercialism and "things."

Here's what I intend on teaching my children about giving versus taking.

Every Christmas morning since you were born your mother and I have set up a video camera to record the events of the morning. It's one of the ways we have recorded you growing up through the years, as you went from crawling over presents and playing with empty boxes, to running into the room trying to guess exactly what was in each box. One of our joys as parents has been watching you tear open the wrapping paper and seeing your eyes light up as you see what was contained in each package.

Having been reared in the United States, you are extremely blessed. You have never experienced poverty or not had something you need. In fact, most of the time you get things you want. But your mother and I worry about what we are teaching you regarding giving versus taking. One of my greatest hopes is that during your lifetime you will learn the joy of giving. Undoubtedly, you will grow up around individuals who surround themselves with "things." But remember, things won't buy happiness. Remember that those "things" can never fill the void in your life as He can. And never forget ultimately Who owns everything.

What must I do to be saved?
 Hear the Gospel (Acts 15:7); Believe the Gospel (Mark 16:15-16); Repent of Sins (Acts 17:30); Confess Christ (Romans 10:9-10); Be Baptized (Acts 2:38)

Scripture Reading:	Joshua Speer
Song Leader:	Lenny Freeze
Opening Prayer (A.M.):	Tommy Smith
Closing Prayer (A.M.):	Tom May
Opening Prayer (P.M.):	Guy Byrd
Closing Prayer (P.M.):	Billy Ellenburg
Nursery Attendant:	TBA

Building Lockup:	Billy Ellenburg
Announcements:	Billy Ellenburg
Door Greeters:	Billy and Debbie E.
Count Contribution:	Harry Frye, John Anderson
Prepare Lord's Table:	Sandy West
Lord's Supper (A.M.):	John Anderson, Steven Mozer, Bradley Speer, Shawn Sharpe
Lord's Supper (P.M.):	Johnny Smith

Worship Times	
Sunday Bible Study	10:00 A.M.
Sunday A.M. Worship	10:55 A.M.
Sunday P.M. Worship	6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 P.M.
Elders	
John Anderson	704.592.2266
Steve Short	704.872.5440
Tommy Smith	704.872.7966
Bradley Speer	704.876.6986
Preacher	
Dave Wood	704.380.4437

There are literally thousands of individuals who have abandoned the Faith in favor of material possessions. These people are selfish takers. They never learned the art of giving. In the book of Acts, Paul reminded the people of the words Jesus Christ who said “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35Open in Logos Bible Software (if available)). Never forget this admonition from the Son of God. I pray that as you grow older you will constantly be on the lookout for ways to give to others. The feeling you get inside is like none other. Practice random acts of kindness. Never forget—people are much more valuable than things.

When your mom and I were in Russia, we had the opportunity to visit the “flat” (apartment) of one of the local Christians. They lived a beautiful life, but it was obvious they did not own nearly the material possessions we did. They worked hard just to get by. During our visit, we complimented a picture she had hanging on the wall, and she literally went over and took it off the wall and gave it to us. We tried desperately to tell her no, but she insisted. In the years since, I have forgotten her name but we still have the picture. Her act of kindness has remained in my memory for years. She truly was a giver.

As you mature, you will meet people who place an inordinate amount of attention on material possessions. Their identity is shaped not by who they really are, but rather by what they own. Many people spend years climbing the corporate ladder so that they can buy more “things.” These individuals remind us of the Rich Young Ruler who asked Jesus what he needed to do to have eternal life. “Jesus said to him, ‘If you want to be perfect, go sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come and follow me’” (Matthew 19:21Open in Logos Bible Software (if available)). Rather than him ruling his possessions, his possessions ruled him. The Bible tells us he went away sorrowful because he had many possessions.

Be thankful for what God has blessed you with, but never let your material possessions separate you from Jehovah God. Look for ways to share your possessions. Be a giver, not a taker! By: Brad Harrub

Welcome to Broad Street Church of Christ

A special welcome is extended to all of our guests. Please let us know if we can assist you. Please fill out a visitor's card which is located on the back of the pew in front of you. Deposit the card in the collection plate when it is passed. If you are looking for a place to worship regularly, we would love to have you here at Broad Street. Please come back and visit with us again.

SHUT-INS:

Ruby Gibson and Frances Elam.

PRAYERS:

Johnny Smith Jr., Phyllis Rumble, Stanley Sharpe, Helen Lyerly, Doris Ellenburg, Will Winchester, Betty Smith, Frank Shepherd, Volney Hughes and Wanda Elam.

- Those who have been affected by the fires in Gatlinburg, TN.

- Voleny Hughes, Janice Allen's father, had surgery last week. He is out of ICU and is doing as well as can be expected.

Sermons:

A.M. - Guest Speaker Barry Smith;

P.M. - IF - 1 John 1:1-4

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 19: Ladies' class will meet at 6:30 P.M.

Dec. 25: We will meet at regular worship and service times. There will not be a fourth evening fellowship meal this month.

Jan. 07: Men's breakfast at the RX at 8:30 A.M.