

Why God Gives To Us

Giving is a natural expression of love. Friends do it. Lovers do it. Parents do it. Even children do it. We give presents to those we love.

The Bible says that “God gives to all mortals life and breath and all things,” so that “in him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:25, 28). A psalmist says, “O, Lord how manifold are your works!...The earth is full of your creatures...They all look to you to give them their food in due season...When you open your hands, they are filled with good things” (Psalm 104:27-28). Jesus says that the Father in heaven gives “good things to those who ask him” (Matthew 7:11).



The word for this “giving” is **grace**. Jesus gives his life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). Eternal life is a gift of God (Romans 6:23). So is the faith necessary to receive it (Ephesians 2:8).

Why does God give these things to us? Because God love us and there is an intrinsic connection between giving and live. Perhaps the best known verse of the Bible says, “For God so loved the world that he gave...” (John 3:16).

God gives because God loves. God gives to *us* because God loves *us*. And when we give our offerings to God as an act of worship we reflect that love. We love God back.



There comes a day when we understand that all is of grace, that the whole world is a gift of God, a completely generous gift. We see each flower, each drop of water, each minute of our life as a gift of God. He gives them to all, both to those who know him and to those who are ignorant of Him.

– Paul Tournier, *Meaning of Gifts* (Richmond: John Knox Press, 1963), p. 59