

Break The Piggy Generously

"Big Fat Piggy", Part 3 of 3
Pastor Vince DiPaola

Knowing When And How To Break Open Your Piggy

(from Mark 14:3-9)

I) "BREAKING THE PIGGY" FOR JESUS CHRIST

The Audacity Of Generosity

"While he [Jesus] was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head."
(Mark 14:3, NIV)

***Generosity involves giving our ___VERY BEST TO GOD__.**

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops."
(Proverbs 3:9, NIV)

II) THE "BREAKING THE PIGGY" CONFLICT

The Challenge Of Generosity

"Some of those present [the disciples] were saying indignantly to one another, 'Why this waste of perfume? It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor.' And they rebuked her harshly."
(Mark 14:4-5, NIV)

***We can always _RATIONALIZE REASONS NOT TO GIVE TO GOD_.**

"Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones... If, then, you have not been faithful in handling worldly wealth, how can you be trusted with true wealth?"
(Luke 16:10-11, TEV)

III) THE "BREAKING THE PIGGY" AGENDA

The Purpose Of Generosity

""Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.""
(Mark 14:6-9, NIV)

***Giving reveals how much we ___LOVE JESUS & THE GOSPEL__.**

"Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be."
(Luke 12:34, LB)

"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your life."
(Deuteronomy 14:23, LB)

IV) WHEN WE DECIDE TO "BREAK THE PIGGY"

The Blessing Of Generosity

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."
(Proverbs 3:9-10, NIV)

"Bring to my storehouse a full tenth of what you earn... Test me in this', says the Lord. 'I will open the windows of heaven for you and pour out all the blessings you need."
(Malachi 3:10, NCV)

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment... be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."
(1 Timothy 6:17-19, NIV)

***Generous people know they can never ___OUT-GIVE GOD__.**