

MAGIC IN GIVING

David Ole Letim

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David Ole Letim

P.O Box 97-40700

Kilgoris-Kenya

Phone no 0727700929

Email- oleletim@gmail.com

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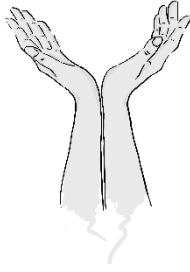
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GIVING:

What should we give?

Magic moments are made of simple things. To share with your Neighbors, friends or family members, those happy moments will never leave you. Everything else will leave but memories will never go.

Good memories will always bring joy that had passed to the present moment. It nourishes and heal our souls and hearts. When our hearts are healed our bodies are healed too. When our bodies are healed, then we shall have life longevity. Never be mean, but give what you have to the person in need or to the person of your preference to bring joy into your heart.

Everyone possesses something, even the poorest of people. No one is totally without something. We all have something to offer. You may not have a home, clothing, or food, but you have your physique, mind, spirit, energy, and the five senses. Use these to help others. Offer a hand when needed, give someone an idea to help them out of a difficult situation, provide a place to rest if they are tired, give clothes if they are naked, give food if they are hungry, give peace if they are in turmoil, and give direction if they have lost their way. Give money if they are in a situation that requires money to solve. Offer solutions to people's problems. There are endless things you can give, but never offer your body for sex outside of a marriage.

How should we give?

Since we all have something, do we all give at the time of need to other people? Do we give what we have in exchange for something else? Do we give so that we can brag around and broadcast so that we can be seen by other people that we have done it or to make it a show? Do we give only to those people we love, and not to those we don't? Do we give under pressure or do we give willingly? Do we give cheerfully or do we give it in gloom? How do we give?

Give and give without ceasing. Give to anyone, regardless of who they are. Give without expecting anything in return. Give without counting how much you have given out. Give out of passion and love. Give without making a show of it or broadcasting what you have given to others. Give with humility. Give cheerfully, even to those who do not like you. You will have heaped coals of fire on their heads. Give and forget what you have given out. Remember that some of the things you have were given to you for free. Everything we have comes from God.

Why should we give?

We give because it is natural for us to do so. It is part of the laws of life to be altruistic. Additionally, giving can give us power and influence over those we give to. When someone is generous, those who receive from them will be more likely to be loyal and compliant to them. As a result, they will have a large following who will follow their decisions without question.

In some cases, those who are financially well-off may need to give in order to protect themselves. For example, if they are the only wealthy person amongst a hundred poor people, they may need to give material support to avoid being attacked by the poor. Rich people may also meet street children and other needy people, offering them food and clothing. Doing this may help to avoid being attacked by thugs.

We give to create friendship, as Luke 16:9 says. You can give whatever you have to make a relationship with a stranger. A good example of this are drunkards and smokers - in any drinking place, whether in the village or in the bar, one can buy another beer without them asking. Likewise, a stranger can offer to light a cigarette for a smoker. From this, friendship

can develop, as they have something in common. Drunkards and smokers are oftentimes closer and more generous to each other than most Christians.

Once a relationship is created, we need to give to our friends what they need from us, even if they don't ask for it, to maintain the friendship. To have a strong bond, you need to exchange things if you want the relationship to continue to flourish. During times of hardship or joy, we need to give to each other whatever we have. For example, if a friend of yours is having difficulty paying for their children's school fees, you can give them some money to supplement what they have. Or, if your friend is getting married, you can give them gifts. What will happen if you do not give to your friends in times of need?

You may not have enough or you may have more than enough, but a time will come when you need to give in order to bless others. Bless others with what you have, and you will receive blessings from God through other people, or directly from Him. We also need to take great care of our parents, and bless them with our giving of any kind. This is practical in Jewish and African cultures, and may be even more widespread.

What would be the result?

I said, give it out and clear it out from your memory what you have given out. Never think of it again. If you do this, you will not have any burden in your heart. Your heart will be light and you will never feel hurt when the person you have given something to before refuses to give you something the day you are in need. Bitterness and anger will never erupt from your heart and therefore you will never have any pain of any sort, even if the situation might hurt you the most because you expected them to give you in return.

I would also like to say that showers of blessings will always follow you if you are a generous person. A chain of people coming to your home will never be cut. When people visit you, they bring overflowing blessings. How? Others bring you material things in appreciation. Others will help you in some home tasks. Others will help you when you are in a difficult situation. Others will give you ideas, moral support, financial support and

spiritual support to propel you to achieve your goals in life. This will translate to less pain and stress and therefore more longevity in life.

Wealth, health and peace are the three things people are working hard and seriously to achieve. All of them are important, but the most important is peace. Peace is a prerequisite to the other two. Without it, you may never achieve them. How will you achieve these through giving? Giving will cement a relationship, making it stronger than diamond. Be it between a father and a child, a husband and a wife, workmates, neighbors, and many others, the relationships will be sealed and without divide. When the relationship is cemented, the result is peace.

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