




7-13 November 2021 • Faith 24/7

## Giving your all

 **Mark 12.38-44**

Jesus has been welcomed into Jerusalem with crowds cheering and waving palm branches. Just after this he visits the Temple, and makes it clear that making a show about giving of lots of money isn't what giving is about, and that the widow who quietly gave the little that she had had given far more. The leaders don't like what they hear and try to find ways to silence Jesus.

Now read **Mark 12.38-44** see p.2 for text.

### A note on the passage

Jesus gives some very clear advice about giving. Giving what we have, giving our best, and our attitude to giving are all more important than the amounts we give. How easy do we find it to give with a generous heart, and do we think about giving as being more than money?



**Ask yourself:** What does living generously mean to you?

# DRAW



On a sheet of paper, draw round your hand. Then draw a heart outline, so that the hand is within the heart. Think of ways you could give with a generous heart. It could be helping someone with a task; making time to chat; sharing a skill you have – e.g. baking, teaching a sports or practical skill, showing a child how to tie their shoelaces. Using different colours, write your ideas around the outside of the heart. Ask God to help you give with a generous heart. Choose one (or more) a week to do. When you have done it, draw a line from the idea to the palm of the hand.

# COUNT

How do you feel when you have given your best to something? Do you feel pleased or satisfied with yourself? On a small piece of card, draw round three coins. Write one of these words inside each coin: give my best. Cut out the coins and take them with you where you will see them from time to time during the day (e.g. in your pencil case or lunch box, handbag, purse or wallet) as a reminder to give or do your best. Don't compare yourself to others, just focus on giving/doing/being your best with the right attitude.

# Donate

Do you have something you no longer need that you could donate to charity? Do you have unopened and in-date food hiding at the back of your cupboard that you don't use and could donate to the local Foodbank? Even one or two items will make a big difference to someone.



Giving doesn't always have to be money or things; it might be giving of your time to encourage someone with kind words or actions. Make or buy a card with words of encouragement and send it to someone. Or, encourage someone by doing or saying something kind to help them. Or, invite someone you know out for coffee and say words of encouragement and appreciation when you meet.



# BAKE

Make some heart biscuits – as you do this, think about who you might share them with, and pray that your biscuits will encourage others.

**You will need:** 125g butter, softened, 55g sugar, 180g plain flour, 125g icing sugar, sprinkles (or small sweets, raisins, etc.), round or heart-shaped cookie cutter, wooden spoon, bowls, rolling pin, measuring jug, baking tray and parchment.

- Heat the oven to 190C/170C fan/gas 5.
- Beat the butter and sugar together. Use a wooden spoon to stir in the flour. Roll the dough to about 1cm thick. Cut out round or heart shapes. Line the baking tray with baking parchment. Place the cut shapes onto the tray. Bake at for 15-20 mins until pale golden. Leave to cool on the tray.
- When cool, mix the icing sugar with 15ml water. Decorate the biscuits with icing and sprinkles (or similar). If the biscuits are round, do this in a heart shape.
- Give the biscuits to friends, neighbours – or anyone you know who might need encouragement.



## Guess what...you can now donate by card

**We are now the proud owners of a card reader, so if you want to make your weekly offering using card – no problem! Funds are paid directly into the church's bank account and all are completely secure.**

### Welcome today...

To the friends and family of Sophie, Elijah, Paul and Becky as we come together to give thanks to God for the children. Do stay after the service and share some fellowship (and maybe cake) with the family.

**Next Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November.** This is Remembrance Sunday. Our ATIC service will start at 10.00 a.m. and finish in time for us to make our way up to the war memorial on the old church site for our Act of Remembrance.

### **Pete Holt**

We have all been saddened to hear the news about Pete's death last week – please do keep Kathy, Annabel and Georgina in your prayers. Pete's funeral will take place at St Martin's Church, London Road on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November starting at 12.45 p.m. with a private family Committal at the crematorium afterwards.

**Today we think about how important Safeguarding is in our church and community – not just for children but for all vulnerable people.  
 Please pray...**

Loving Father God, we lift to you those who are vulnerable and in need of protection. Give them your safety, comfort and peace. We cry to you for those who are hurting and whose trust has been broken. Give them your healing, restoration and justice. Amen.

Daily Readings for week commencing 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021		
<b>Monday</b>	Isaiah 5: 8-24	Matthew 4: 23-5:12
<b>Tuesday</b>	Isaiah 5: 25-end	Matthew 5: 13-20
<b>Wednesday</b>	Isaiah 6	Matthew 5: 21-37
<b>Thursday</b>	Isaiah 7: 1-17	Matthew 5: 38-end
<b>Friday</b>	Isaiah 8: 1-15	Matthew 6: 1-18
<b>Saturday</b>	Isaiah 8: 16-9:7	Matthew 6: 19-end

**Pray for those in need...**Sally, Tristan, Mark, Katie-Louise, Pam, Sue, Bryn, Evelyn, Shane, Pat, Heather, Dorothy, Mandy, Joyce, Ian, Juliette and Nicki. **Please remember those who mourn the loss of loved ones at this time...Pete.**