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"Giving That Feels Good"
Acts 4:32-37 (ref)
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NLC Vision Statement: "Seek GROW Build" ~Seek - Matt 6:33, 7:7 (ref) ~GROW - Word/Relationships/Outreach/ Worship ~Build - Matt 7:24 (ref)

Five Motivations For Giving 1. Guilt "I have to" ~2 Cor 9:7 "cheerful giver" ~Strength: people will give out of guilt ~Weakness: not biblical, no joy

2. Responsibility "I ought to"
~2 Cor 8:1-7 Macedonians example
~"affliction"/"liberality"
~"this grace/gift"

~strength: good Christian trait ~weakness: gave enough, legalism, no life

3. Someone's Need "I want to"
~2 Cor 8:13-15 (ref)
~strength: good to help others, it works
~weakness: not everyone sees or approves the same need, always needs, opinions

4. Thanksgiving "I can't help giving"
~1 Chronicles 16:29 "glory", "offering", "worship"
~strength: biblically sound
~weakness: Luke 17:17(ref) only one, not always thankful

5. Worship "It's my nature!" 2 Cor 8:5 (ref)
~Matt 6:3-4, Col 3:2-3, Eph 6:7 (refs)
~2 Cor 9:12-13 "proves obedience"

~1 Tim 6:17-19 "act of trust" ~Phil 4:18 "sacrifice to God" ~strength: pleases God, true contentment ~weakness: none!

After Ananias and Sapphira: Acts 5:12-14 ~v12 "miracles and unity ~v13 respect ~v14 multitudes added

"Giving That Feels Good" ~not guilt, not responsibility, not needs, not thankfulness ~as an act of worship! "they first gave themselves to the Lord, then to us by the will of God" 2 Corinthian 8:5