

# Welcome to Rev Darren King's Bible Study – 10 November 2024

## PENTECOST 25

### GIVING BEYOND OBLIGATION

Welcome 🙏

**Opening Prayer** (please pray together)

God of love, you choose to accomplish your love through us. You have given us gifts with which to bless this world, to heal the hurting, to feed the needy, to encourage the unfortunate. Stir up those gifts in us, and give us love and courage to share them, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit and the presence of your loving Jesus, Amen.

**Q 1 What do you think was the second thing that Jesus spoke about the most?**

**The first being the Kingdom of God. (no right or wrong answer here, as this is personal interpretation of the parables) Why do you think this way?**

**Music Worship** 🎤

Sing Jesus is Lord

Amazing Grace

As the deer pants for the water

**Read Psalm 127**

**A song of ascents. Of Solomon.**

<sup>1</sup> Unless the LORD builds the house,  
the builders labour in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city,  
the guards stand watch in vain.

<sup>2</sup> In vain you rise early  
and stay up late,

toiling for food to eat—

for he grants sleep to those he loves.

<sup>3</sup> Children are a heritage from the LORD,  
offspring a reward from him.

<sup>4</sup> Like arrows in the hands of a warrior  
are children born in one's youth.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed is the man  
whose quiver is full of them.

They will not be put to shame

when they contend with their opponents in court.

**Word: Mark 12.38-44 Warning Against the Teachers of the Law**

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets. <sup>40</sup> They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

## **The Widow's Offering**

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts.

<sup>42</sup> But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

**COMMENTARY      How do we judge someone's intentions?**

**How do you know a long prayer is for appearance rather than genuine virtue?**

**While these questions are not easy to answer, what seems clear is Mark's intention to reevaluate the importance of giving everything.**

**In the Kingdom of God, what is valued and important is different from that of our human kingdom.**

**Q 2 Money is a very controversial topic.**

**Why do you think Jesus spoke about it so often?**

**Q 3 We live in a world that always has money for war but never enough for poverty and homelessness. Please discuss**

**Q 4 We should always be generous givers, but it could be our time, talents or money. Do you agree with this?**

**Q 5 Jesus warned about trying to make a good impression and had no time for the Pharisee hypocrites who had no love for God. Live for Christ - even when no one is looking. Please discuss**

### **Works**

Who can we help this week with our time?

**Ending Prayer** (please pray together)

God of abundant blessings, you give us the gift of Creation; you give us the gift of life; you give us the gifts of all that we possess. Everything is a gift from you. We have come to you today to receive the gift of your Word, so that we might be transformed by your grace and filled with your spirit of abundance. Let us take your Word, and deliver it to all. Amen.

**Shalom Rev Darren King (Roots on the web, The Message)**