

## Ultimate Giving

Luke 17:5-10

CIE-context is everything.

Read verses 5-10 in context:

Forgive 7 times a day. Luke 15:3b-4	Lord, increase our faith. Luke 15:5-6	Duty without reward. Luke 15:7-10	1 Leper's gratitude. Luke 15:11-19
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**The Context of this passage challenges Western Culture:**

- Heroes versus **servants**.
- Glory seekers versus **duty doers**.
- Grandiose versus **Grateful**.

### 1. Giving without **strings**.

*So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'* —Luke 17:10

*"But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."* —Matthew 6:3-4

**"Let some else do it." Or "Someone has to do it."**

*"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law."* —Romans 13:8

### 2. Giving out of **gratitude**.

*Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do?* —Luke 17:9

*One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup>He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.* —Luke 17:15-16

*Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.* (Romans 5:8)

- Duty grows weary.
- Passion cools.
- But gratitude to God overflows.

### 3. Giving the ultimate gift.

*“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”* —John 15:13

"Grenade!" (a story of Pfc. Ross McGinnis' sacrifice to save his buddies)  
Washington Post Staff Writers, Tuesday, January 2, 2007; Page A01

**Ultimate giving is:**

- To give your life, the ultimate sacrifice.
- To give your life day in and day out in service.
- To forgive seven times a day.
- A lifestyle rather than a heroic event.

**Church is at war with western culture:**

- We fear long-term commitments.
- Many only serve sacrificially if it benefits me and my family.
- Feeling good is a required outcome of service.

Memory Verse:

*So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, “We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.”* —Luke 17:10