



Tight Fist or Open Hand?

Proverbs 11:24-25

In God's system of economics...

- 1)** Diligent effort plus creation's resources produce wealth.
(Add wisdom to accelerate)

- 2)** Wealth comes with a warning label.
 - Too little...
 - Too much..

- 3)** Wisdom and wealth work together when we discover the gift of generosity.

Benefit #1: Generosity increases life's blessings.

Benefit #2: Generosity decreases wealth's dangers.

Key: Giving makes us like God.

Download "*Tight Fist or Open Hand?*" (08/15/10 #9 in Proverbs series) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.com/media.
You may also purchase a CD at the Resource Center in the East Lobby.

REALife Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

- 1) As you examine your behavior would you say you are tight fisted or open handed? Give some examples.
- 2) How does the abundance of wealth or the preoccupation with wealth challenge the Fear of the LORD? See Proverbs 30:7-9. What did Jesus say about this? See Matthew 6:24.
- 3) Think of examples where giving benefitted the giver. Think of examples when being stingy hurt the country who wouldn't give.
- 4) Read John 3:16. What does this verse teach about the heart of God? Is it possible to truly follow Jesus and not be generous? Explain your answer.



Memory Verse

"One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed."

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Proverbs