

First Friends Church
“Living Upside Down”
March 15, 2009

“Upside Down” – Living in Christ’s Kingdom is so counter-culture it often seems like it’s *flipped* 180 degrees upside down. www.flipd.org (Middle School Ministry)

Acts 17:6 Christ’s followers became known as people “who have turned the world upside down.” (Amplified Version)

Upside Down Principles in God’s Kingdom Economy:

#1 – GOD IS THE OWNER AND EXTRAVAGANT GIVER OF ALL THINGS! (last week)

Psalm 24:1 *The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*

#2 – WE ARE CREATED TO EXPERIENCE AND PASS GOD’S GRACE-FILLED GENEROSITY.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-15

Transforming Truths:

1. Grace-filled generosity comes first from giving ourselves completely over to Christ. 8:5,7
 - a. Overflowing joy surpasses severe trial. Vs.2
 - b. Christ is our example: from “rich” to “poor” for our sake. 2 Cor. 8:9
 - c. God is able, not us. 9:8, 11
2. Grace-filled generosity surpasses all other forms of giving. 9:6-9

3. Generous living meets the needs of others. 9:12
 - a. We are not giving TO a church...we ARE the Church!
4. Generous living results in praise to God. (9:12-13)

Transforming Questions:

1. In what area of my life is God trying to increase my generosity level?
2. What transformation needs to happen in my heart?
3. Is God’s grace producing an overflowing joy in my life? If not, then why not?

WE WERE CREATED TO EXPERIENCE, AND PASS ON, GOD’S GENEROSITY.

Let’s do it together!