

Giving Back

Ready:

"A generous man will be enriched, and the one who gives a drink of water will receive water."
-Proverbs 11:25

Set

He may not have been the biggest, fastest or strongest man in the NFL, but that didn't keep Warrick Dunn from being selected as the 2004 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year. The award, which recognizes a player who excels on the field and in community service, couldn't have a more worthy recipient than Dunn. Inspired by his mother, who never got to realize her dream of owning a home, he has helped 52 single moms become first-time home owners through his "Home for the Holidays" program. Said Dunn, "People say I'm giving back, but I think I'm getting a lot more than what I put in."

How is it that a person who gives so much can feel like he is getting more back? I believe it boils down to the motives behind our giving. Are we giving in order to receive something (awards, praise, etc.) or to genuinely help others, regardless of what comes our way? The joy of making a difference in the lives of others can be its own reward.

While the generosity in Warrick Dunn's story has to do with money, it doesn't mean that generosity can't be shown in other ways. A person who is generous with his or her time can be just as important to those in need by providing encouragement, a listening ear, prayer, etc.

Whether it is money, time or talents, when we give back with a pure heart I believe that we will often get the better end of the deal. Today, be generous with all that God has given you.

Go

1. As a competitor, how can you give back to God and others?
2. How have you experienced blessings through giving to others?
3. Do you need to make changes in your life in order to become more generous? Explain.

Workout

Proverbs 3:9-10
Proverbs 22:9
Acts 20:35
2 Corinthians 9:6-13

Bible Reference:

2 Corinthians 9



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