

## **PMC SERMON “LIVE IT OUT” GUIDE**

Date: 3 May 2015

Text: Proverbs 11:24

Title: Giving and Taking

Preacher: Rev Lai Kai Ming

Series: Shining Like Stars

[**For Group Leaders:** The following serves only as a guide. Please feel free to adapt according to the needs of your group.]

### **1. SERMON RECAP**

*(Visit [pmc.org.sg](http://pmc.org.sg) to listen to the sermon and download a copy of the Powerpoint slides)*

- a. Recognizing that all we have is a gift – that’s the key to generosity.
- b. Are we growing in generosity as the years pass, or are we becoming more stingy?
- c. Am I a Taker or Giver at work?
- d. It takes faith to be generous. Our generosity points to our generous God.
- e. We worship a generous God, who calls us to be like Him.

### **2. LIVE IT OUT**

- a. As a group, discuss the difference behind the attitude of a Giver and Taker as described below:

**Taker: I work so hard, I demand a promotion**

Giver: I work hard as my service unto God. I welcome a promotion, but I will not strive or demand for it.

**Taker: don't you realize how valuable I am to the company?**

Giver: my worth is found in God, not in my work performance.

**Taker: I must fight for my rights.**

Giver: God will fight for my rights. If I fight, I fight for other people's rights

- b. Pastor Kai Ming shared some ideas on being generous at our workplace,

*e.g. buying someone a meal, being generous with praises, helping others (e.g. covering their duties), and sharing useful information/tips instead of holding on to them tightly.*

- i. As a group, list other ways to be generous at work.
- ii. Discuss the possible challenges and complexities of being generous, and how we might overcome them with godly wisdom.
- iii. **COMMIT to doing one of the above this coming week.**

- c. Some 'good' reasons often cited for not giving to others are:
- Not to encourage dependencies
  - Not to be taken for granted or taken advantage of
  - Some people just don't deserve our generosity

How do we address these reasons as justification for not giving? Read Matthew 5:45-48 again, and reflect upon the principles behind Jesus' words.

### 3. REFLECT AND PRAY

Fill up the table as a way for personal reflection and review.

Prayerfully review the areas below. Put a cross (X) in the box where you realise you have held back from giving		Possible Reasons	Actions to be taken so that I can mature as a Christian & shine like stars for Christ.
	<b>"X"</b>		
<b>Time</b>			
<b>Money</b>			
<b>Talent</b>			
<b>Assets (Car, house, etc.)</b>			
<b>Personal Rights (Privacy, entitlements, etc.)</b>			
<b>Others</b>			

### 4. GOING DEEPER

- a. Consider the words of Jesus below and study the implications for our generosity in life and spirit.

*"If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. **Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.**"*

Matthew 5:41-42