



# Abundant Living Ministries

*Encouraging Christian Living since 1978*

January 2022

## GIVER OR TAKER??

I asked my client about his relationship with his wife, "So... all things considered... in general, are you a **giver** or a **taker**? He thought for a few seconds, his face colored, he then actually grinned uncomfortably and answered, "Well, I think I'm pretty much a **TAKER**."

Together, we looked at Acts 20:35 which is one of the governing principles Sharon and I purpose to follow in our own marriage. ***It is more blessed to give than to receive.***

I paraphrase it to make it even more practical for my day-to-day. ***I will be more blessed today... I will be a happier camper... if I stay focused on ways I can give to others, rather than getting bent out of shape over that which others don't give to me.***

May this be another year in which we stay focused on blessing others. We can start with some basics as we: smile at a sad-looking face; speak an encouraging word; give to a needy person; pray for an ill person; or tell the Good News of the gospel to somebody who doesn't know.

We are blessed as we bless others!

John (for Sharon and the rest at ALM)

P.S. Thank you to all who participated in the *ExtraGive* program. \$12,836 was contributed to help with the ministry here at ALM. You are an example of ***blessing others!***

## Praying for our

## Children



***Many Christian parents are burdened about the spiritual condition of their children. May 2022 be a year of fervent prayer on their behalf.***

***Consider using the following scriptures as you pray for your family.***

Dear Heavenly Father... I cry out to you on behalf of my children...

### My prayer:

I ask You to plant within their hearts a hunger and thirst to walk in Your ways!

***Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*** (Matthew 5:6)

### My prayer:

I ask You to fight on behalf of, and rescue those who have been taken captive or are being enticed by Satan's schemes!

***But this is what the Lord says: "Yes, captives will be taken from warriors, and plunder retrieved from the fierce; I will contend with those who contend with you, and your children I will save."*** (Isaiah 49:25)

**My prayer:**

I ask You to direct them to people and places where they will receive the life-giving teaching of Your truth!

*All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be their peace.* (Isaiah 54:13)

**My prayer:**

I ask You to reward the spiritual investment we have made in our children and draw their hearts home to You and to the faith of their fathers!

*This is what the Lord says: "Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work will be rewarded," declares the Lord.*



*"They will return from the land of the enemy. So **there is hope for your descendants,**" declares the Lord. "**Your children will return to their own land.**" (Jeremiah 31:16,17)*

**My prayer:**

I ask You to pour out your Spirit on my children and grandchildren, that they may be filled with passion for You and speak forth your Word no matter what the future may bring!

*"In the last days," God says, "I will pour out my Spirit on all people. **Your sons and daughters will prophesy,** your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams."* (Acts 2:17)

**My prayer:**

I ask You to reveal Yourself powerfully to my children, so they will have a life-changing vision of Your great salvation!

*The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and **all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.*** (Isaiah 52:10)

**My prayer:**

I ask You to draw my **entire family** to saving faith in You, just as You drew me to place my trust in You!

*They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you **and your household.**"* (Acts 16:31)

*If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!*  
(Matthew 7:11)

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*  
(Matthew 7:7)

*I call on You, my God, for You will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.*  
(Psalm 17:6)

Written by  
Sharon Charles



## Open Arms

### Childbirth Class

**Four Consecutive Thursdays**  
**April 7– 28, 2022**  
**7:00 pm**

Covering the important information offered in a hospital course, *Open Arms* adds a distinctively-Christian perspective. You will enjoy meeting other expectant couples as you gain practical help in preparing for a great labor and delivery. There is no cost for this course.

**Register by contacting the ALM office.**

## Contact Information

**Mailing Address:**  
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