

Getting Out of the Huddle

By Francis Chan

Well, I'm excited to be back here and I came here just so fired up and had these messages, I had a message for this morning and all planned out. And then I heard Bryan preach and just I just got this fear that I didn't want to move on from that message because it was just so powerful. And so I want to talk about it. I'm going to execute his message for my message this morning. I mean, it was just so, so powerful. And my fear is this. My fear is this that you would hear that message and go, oh, man, that was so good. I got to care for the poor and do something.

And then, you know, you can take your break. You come back, you know, you hear about the transfiguration, you hear about the perfume, you know, and then I come and I talk about prayer. I talk about Bible study where I talk about discipleship or this or that and. Oh, that's good. And then you when you go to another seminar, you hear another thing. You hear another thing here, another thing. And the question is, is do you ever do anything about it?

You know, it's like I often feel like our our our conferences or even our church services are kind of like kind of like a football game. You know, if, you know, football season just started again and I don't know if you guys are like football and if you like to watch football, but if you do, you don't know what your favorite part of football is. But it's probably not the huddle. You probably go, oh, I want to see the Colts huddle this week, you know, and because you know what if what if, though, you you go and you turn on the game and then Manning gets in there, you know,

gathers the Colts together, calls a play, and then, you know, when you see the huddle, you're so fired up, they break and then they run to the bench.

And 30 seconds later they come running back out and they huddle again. He goes, hey, you got another point for us, you know? And then he calls us play and they're like, yeah, you know, break. And they run to the bench and they do this for like three hours straight because that is so stupid. You guys. That's exactly what the Christian church in America looks like today. It's exactly what we do. We come to church, we hear someone called play from the playbook.

Hey, this is where we're going to do you see all those verses? We got to care for the poor. We got to do something and we all go, yeah, let's take a break. Go fired up. Come on. Let's go back in. Let's huddle again, you know, and we never actually do it. We never actually run a play. And then we wonder why the world looks at church and go, I don't want to have anything to do with them.

They get to good to go. I can't wait till next Sunday to hear another play. What are you going to do with it? The world's waiting for us to play ball. The Bible says you guys know the past, you know what James says in chapter one, he goes, don't don't fool yourself, don't kid yourself, don't deceive yourself by just hearing the word and not actually doing something about it. I want you to think about the message you just heard and ask yourself, what are you going to do?

Anything you're actually going to do with that message? Or you just going to hear another one, you just want to hear another one, you want to go to another seminar, you know, you want to go you know, you want to chat about it later. You know, there's just what are you going to do?

I went through the system and I've done it all, man, what he was talking about when he was talking about, you know, the people right here in our own country, I mean, you guys right here in L.A., you know, I'm on the board for World Impact where we we talk about the inner city and we care for the inner city poor and minister to the inner city poor. And I remember it at our last church planting conference.

I was speaking and I saw someone from my seminary, someone that graduated with me, my friend Mark, and he comes up to me afterwards. I'm like, What are you doing here? You went to seminary. You don't care about the poor, because I know that's what I thought about you, you know, what are you guys doing? What are we doing here? He looked at me and he said he says because how did we miss it, Francis?

He goes, how did we miss it? We studied that book backwards, forwards. You know, we knew the languages. We passed every bird, we executed every verse. And yet I didn't care about the poor girl. I could I could care less about them to. He goes, how does that happen, how in the world do you go through Bible college and seminary without a heart for the poor? It's in every single page of this book.

I go, I know. I'm just figuring it out. I mean, those verses that he threw on the screen man up and just they're just in my head all the time, man. I was going to come with a PowerPoint of all these verses. You know, I remember one Sunday morning, I even preached. I just I just let the verses run just just verse after verse after verse, and everyone's just jaw dropped as we realize how much God cares for the poor. And he says that's true religion. True religion is when you care for the widows and orphans, a bunch of talk, not being able to keep a tight rein on your time because you know what?

Your religion's worthless concept is worthless. Does this the worst thing we could do is come to Tory conference here, a bunch of messages and go, wow, that was great. A T-shirt I survived Torrey, you know, I heard all this stuff. I'm fired up. It's exactly like a team getting together, huddling, getting so fired up and running to the bench. And you guys, I'm just so sick of seeing that in church week in week out at different youth conferences where everyone just screams, gets fired up. Claps, yells. And then go right back to class and they don't actually do anything, I don't even know what I'm preaching up here.

But, you know, I. I went to Africa. A few years ago. And and it changed my life. I'd been on so many different missions, trips, but I don't know what it was about this one. But here's the thing. OK, now I know what I'll talk about. You know, for a lot of my life, my Christianity. I would hear a message like Bryan and I would hear it and go, I'm a loser, you know, which how many you felt that? OK, good, OK, right on.

And you know, because you just go, oh, man, I don't care about the poor, you know, and I feel guilty and everything else, you know. And and I would do a lot of things, man. I hear a message on Evangelised. I was always careful to be a doer because I read that verse. I look at the Pharisees and go, man, I don't want to be that. I don't want to just grab all this head knowledge because that drove me crazy in the church.

The hypocrisy of people would hear message, give message and do nothing about it, you know. And so I always wanted to do and I always felt this sense of I don't want to just hear the word, I'm going to do something, I won't do something. So I hear a message and go, Oh, I've got to do something. And that's good.

Any time you obey, it's a good thing. But but, you know, when I was heading to Africa, I just said to the Lord, you know, Lord, so much of my life has been this obligation and this fear of you. I mean, those who have heard me speak over the years, I think even last year I talked about the fear of God and I talked about that transfiguration and how they just fell on their faces, you know, like like the trauma we just saw of just I mean, what was that to see God and just all the holiness of coming for a holy God. And so you better obey him. So do it. Go do it. This is an awesome God.

This is a God to be feared. And so when he says something, I remember that. And I talk about that last year when he spoke out of the cloud and he says, this is my son, whom I love. Listen to him. And you go, all right, anything you say, anything you say, you know, I'll listen to him. I'll listen to him, you know, and I still believe that with all of my heart. But and that's the beginning

of wisdom. You always obey. You always just listen to what God says and you do it out of a fear of God.

And because there's times when you won't feel like it and you always go back to that fear. And that's why it has to be at the foundation, the fear of the Lord being the beginning of wisdom. But what's happened to me, I feel like even this last three months you heard me speak three months ago. I was a completely different guy, you know, I mean, God's word and what it's been teaching me over the years. But but going back to that trip, I remember just praying the Lord God, I don't want to just do things out of guilt, because your word tells me that even if I give everything I possess to the poor First Corinthians 13 and surrender my body to the flames, but I don't have love prophets, me nothing.

So I said, God, when I see the poor on this trip. I don't want to just give them everything because I feel guilty, I want you to have me look in their faces and fall so in love with them. But I can't help but give. And you guys, that's exactly what God did to me. Man, all the verses you learn as a kid, love your neighbor as yourself, and you see a bunch of orphans, you know, digging through the trash, looking for food to eat, you know, these little eight, nine year old girls, you know, digging through the trash, just looking for anything to eat. And then you hear those words in your head to love your neighbor as yourself.

I'm looking at those kids, I do I love them as myself. Well, what if those were my kids, one of Lisa and I died and my four kids were on a trash heap somewhere? Well, what I want someone to do for them. Starting off, you know what, I love them as myself and as Brian said, he goes, You

know what? That's your brother there from the scene where where Jesus was teaching in the temple as a little boy.

And someone goes, hey, hey, Jesus, you're your mother and your brothers are out there. And he goes, My mother and brothers, who's my mother, my brothers, my sisters is you hear the word of God and do it. He was saying something very real there. He says, look, this bond we have in Christ, this is so much thicker than blood. He says, you you guys in this room who truly and I don't know which ones of you are for real. But you guys are truly my brothers and sisters. So when we gave that illustration about those coming out of welfare, coming down to the platform and you know what?

That's your brother. That's your sister and I really believe that. What if that was my daughter on that trash heap? Would I just leave her alone? I couldn't do it. And I started looking in their eyes and going, gosh, you know, they're so cute. You start talking to them and like, oh, man, I'm crazy about you. It's like, man, I want to give to them. For the first time in my life, I understood x 20, verse thirty five when Jesus said it is more blessed to give than to receive. Have you ever done a lot, if you know me, you know I like to play. Oh man, I like to play just anything, any sport, any competition. I just find it just like I love every sport, you know, I just come alive.

You get me on the ocean, throw me on a board. And I am just I just can't contain myself. I'm sorry. I just got back from men's retreat, you know, just wakeboarding, you know, on these these hills, you know, midnight, you know, full moon, like, come on, let's get in the water, you know, and just wait for enjoy a full moon. And I'm back there behind this boat. Ten of my buddies in

the boat just laughing. I'm just going to God. This is amazing. God, this is so, so good. And there's so many things I enjoy.

I love I love surf and live golf ball, tennis, whatever, anything. I just love to play. And I don't know what the pleasure is in your life, but. Have you ever. Given a bowl of rice. To someone, a child who would not get it otherwise. I tell you, there is no greater feeling. You know, when Jesus is, it's better to give than to receive. I've experienced a lot of pleasure on this earth, but there's something, for lack of a better word, magical about putting a smile on the face of an orphan by giving him or her food that they would normally get.

You know, I came back from Africa that year and I just started telling everyone, you know, we got to give, we got to give, we just started sending, you know, hundreds of thousands of dollars over there, you know? And I went back to a little island, you know, just this last January. And and, you know, over this first place, that was just nothing there in our church was able to build schools and orphanages and everything else. And I remember walking into this one orphanage or orphanage, singular.

And and there was there were about 700 little kids in this in this in this building that we built 700 kids learning the lesson and a teacher stops. And these kids, you got to understand, when I went several years ago, I mean, their runner is National Geographic. There's nothing I mean, they're just, you know, hard pressed for anything, no education. Now they're seeing classroom in uniforms being fed with vitamins and everything else. And I walk in the room and the teacher stops the class and she says, Do you know who this man is?

Is this Pastor Chan from Cornerstone? He is the one that people in his church have sponsored every single one of you. This is why you have food. This is why you are in this classroom right now. This is why you have clothes. And to see 700 orphan kids stand up and start clapping and screaming, you tell me there's a better feeling on this planet than that. Then they have these kids. Look at you and and clap and scream. And to go, God, you know what? Kill me right now, just take me to heaven right now. This is the greatest. There's nothing like that. I just I just left. There I go. God, this is the most important thing I've ever done in my life.

Forget about getting in front of a stadium and talking to a bunch of people when Jesus says it's more blessed to give than to receive. He meant that. I don't think I don't think we believe it, though I don't think we really believe that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Because we don't hear those messages in our world, everything's about you want this, you want that, you want that, you don't get it because it's not about obligation. It's not about Hafter to it's a matter of do you want to live a blessed life? A blessed life is when you get home and you realize, man, there's nothing better than this. I want to give more. Not a martyr thing of all. I'm going to sacrifice and give to the poor, you know?

No, it's about you're going to waste your life if you spend it receiving, you're never going to find the joy that God wants you to have. You talk about this attitude of Philippians to considering others above yourselves. You know, we often look at it like, all right, I guess I will.

Right. All right, stop being selfish here, you know. Hi, nice shirt, you know, just whatever. It's just like this pain. OK, I'll do it and I'm going, you know what? You don't get it. You don't get that. This was for the joy set before him that he endured the cries, the joy that it's really more blessed to give than to receive. Oh, man. You guys, this is life.

It's just like, you know, it's life, life was Christmas, Christmas Day, every Christmas day, ever since my my oldest who's who's nine now, everything. She was about three years old, three years old. Christmas Day. She opened presents and said, you know, are there any more? You know, there's one. You know, it's just it's you know, it's just like, what is that? You got more gifts than I ever had in my whole childhood, you know?

And I just thought, you know what, you know, that's it. Every Christmas day, we're going to go to Mexico and it'll be, ah, that would be our family trip. Every Christmas day, we're going to Mexico, you know, enjoy it. And last year, you know, last year my you know, she was eight. Wow.

I guess she's still nine nine and and my five year old. We went to this orphanage in southern Mexico and a room full of these orphans and my nine year old up there playing piano. With a microphone singing Joy to the World, my little five year old up there with a microphone and and to see my two oldest girls singing Joy to the World. It's about 100 Hispanic orphans. And to see these kids who had no clue what they were singing, just screaming out Altro otro smores, you know, screaming for more you guys, you have no clue how good that feels as a daddy to go.

Here's my nine year old and my five year old on Christmas Day giving to orphans, performing in front of a 100 little orphan kids stealing their heart, just just giving presents, giving food, because this is life. Christian, I came to give you life. This is life, but you only experience that life when you actually do something with it. It's not an obligation. It's not what I'm talking about now. My whole life was about have to choose.

So me, in the last few years, I realize this book is all about get to choose. Oh, man, I kissed a girl I get to kill when I get to feed over, like, you know, just give me a little more rice and watch them just chop it down and a smile on his face. Are you just sit here and watch my little kids perform your budget in front of a bunch of orphaned kids. I get to go to Africa and sit and look in this orphanage and go, no way.

It's all it's my congregation. This is our orphanage. You're feeding them. I mean, I get to go in the inner city, you know, and play ball with guys, you know, and talk to them and love on them and just get into their lives. Man, I love it. It gives me life, man. It is more blessed to give than to receive. I don't believe that. We believe that.

When I came back from Africa, that first trip, you know, I remember I remember that first day home, you know, and seeing my wife in a couple of weeks, I'm reading through Second Corinthians, just read through the whole book. I don't know why. I just thought I'd pick this book. And I read through and and remember, I got through to chapter something, and it's right around 8:00 where Paul talks about, you know, giving to the Jerusalem scenes in their poverty.

And he says to them, because I'm not saying to for you guys to be poor and give them everything and let them be rich, he goes, I'm just saying that there might be equality. Because one day maybe their riches will help you out, but that word equality, thought equality, as I said in my 2000 square foot house, thinking about what I just saw, equality. And I remember when I was there, they they showed me that, you know, this one plays they're talking about this one place where this this Vietnam vet had moved out there years ago.

His wife, you know, he was in a wheelchair and they had like a thousand square foot house. And they they they took it an orphan. Then pretty soon, you know, they couldn't help but taking another one. I mean, how do you turn people away that are starving? So they took in another one. You this is in Uganda and they're taking in another one of them. Pretty soon they have so many, they have to build out their house bigger because they couldn't say no.

And they built the house even bigger because I couldn't say no. Pretty soon he said, listen, it's a three thousand square foot house. He and his wife with a hundred and twenty orphans. He had them three iron bunk beds and hanging from hammocks from the ceiling, a man in a wheelchair and his wife. A hundred and twenty orphans because they couldn't say no. Amber leaving there and going. I envy them. You imagine can you imagine what it will be like when they come in in the presence of God?

I thought, what a fulfilling feeling. Just to go, OK, honey, what we're doing right now. I guarantee you that is a better feeling than standing by yourself in a 3000 square foot house, that's all luxurious and beautiful pool spa, big screen TV, plasma on the wall, everything else. And

going, honey, look at this. I guarantee you, another couple is far more fulfilled. They understand life. They experience life because God's word is true. It is more blessed to give than to receive. And I come home and I read all this stuff about equality and equality. That's what a joke. What a joke.

Do I believe this is God's word and I just don't get convicted, cry and then go right back to life. And I just remember that day looking at my wife said, honey, I can't live here anymore. I can't do it anymore. Look at this place, it's not extravagant. But after what I've seen. Those are our kids in Africa. I love them. I love them like myself, Jesus, I'm supposed to care for them like I care for him.

What if that were Jesus in that trash pile, would we be living in this house? But, honey, you know what, I don't want us to do anything drastic until you see it, because when you see it, you'll feel the same way I do. Let me take you to Africa with me. And she goes, No, honey, I believe you.

If you want to sell the house. I'm not saying it's going to be easy, but I trust you. Ladies. That's not normal. I'm telling you right now, I am not married to a normal woman, I am married to a woman of God. You find you find how men and women on this earth would say that to their husbands who come home with some idea and just say, you know what, let's sell the house and find the smallest place we can find, and she'll go, OK.

Because I believe that you'll lead me in God's ways. To leave a 2000 square foot house and grab two kids and start looking at trailer parks. Go in a different trailer park, homes and garden man, we just let's just live off of less, not that we were ever extravagant. Let's look around. Yeah, I could live here. OK, so could I just find the cheapest place to find this little thousand square foot fixer upper? This is actually cheaper because we have to pay rent. We don't have to, you know, rent the molholm spot and everything else. You know, let's let's go in there.

Moving a thousand square foot home and my family's never been happier now a family of six. And we took in a couple of college students live in our garage. Couldn't afford to go to Bible corridor living here and we'll help you through college. Have eight of us in this thousand square foot home and go, man, this is this is like every day to walk out of there and go, you know what? And you know what? People are profiting in Africa, Kenneth and Rose and Dora and all the the kids that we adopted over there and say, you know what, this is cool to sit down with my kids at home every every meal and say, you know, and pray for those kids and say, gosh, you know, I hear my little five year old God, please help them to find food today.

You know, that's why. That's life. Guys, I don't I don't bring this up, I sure hope this doesn't come across as it will, you know, look at Francis all he gives up. I'm just saying you're stupid if you don't. I am. This is a. This is more blessed. It's more blessed to give and to receive. I think you'd be hard pressed to find a man happier than me on this Earth with more joy, more pleasure. Every time I walk in my home, this full house, you know, just these kids crawling all over you, but having a love for the poor. I and my two little girls a couple of weeks ago, you know, they're talking about, you know, girls, get out.

I want to horses. You know, we have a house together, Mersea, you know, let's let's build a barn and you can take care of the cows. I'll take care of the horses down. I'll take care of the pigs, you know, everything else. And they're talking about growing up right there, growing up. And my daughter, my oldest daughter, Rachel, goes, okay, so we need to start saving now. You know, we got to start saving, you know, because there's interest in all these things.

And she goes, So any time. Any time, OK. OK, a little more mercy, a little favor. OK, you know, she goes, let's make a deal. Any time we have money, anytime we get a hundred dollars like a Christmas from grandma or something like that, we both put it on the back, put it in the bank. OK, is that a deal. And we save up together for this barn. Yes, yes.

Yeah. OK, that's a deal. They go to shake in my little favor. Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. Unless there's a poor person we're supposed to give it to. OK, OK, five years old, you talk about joy, you know how happy that makes a father and you get it.

I mean, in your head, you're thinking about others, you're putting others above yourself at five. That's Joy. When you go, man, you know, you're becoming like Christ. Hey, guys, this is not about obligation, I don't want you to leave here and go, OK, we better do something. We find something to sell, give it away. I don't want you to do that. You know what the difference is? Here's a difference.

Valentine's Day, Valentine's Day this year is the night before Valentine's Day, February 13th, right. And and I thought, we're out of this dinner and this this gal, you know, we're at her house with a bunch of friends, Sandra. She goes, Hey, Frances, what are you doing for Lisa for Valentine's Day? And I was like. No, because you mean you don't have anything yet? I totally forgot, and it's like nine o'clock at night, the night before I thought, Oh, I'm so dumb. And she goes, I have some cards. I'm like, no way. Yeah, I could sneak any one right now. And so she goes over, you know, she had this stack of cards and she she gives me one.

I took it, you know, behind my, you know, shirt and OK, honey, it's time to go, you know, and you just start and you walk out, you know, and I'm like, this is so cool. That morning I get up early for work. I ride out, you know, just something totally mushy, you know, just like I thought about this so long. I love you, you know, and and I go out to the backyard, to our Rose Garden, and I cut a little rose off the perfect rose. And I shake all the bugs off, you know, because all the ones at home always have those and wash them down and lay it out, you know, on the on the counter, you know, in our in our house and, you know, with the card and, you know, had a light shining on, I thought, wow, that is beautiful, that is beautiful.

I honestly even went to work, went to church that day and I was bragging about telling the other pastors, I go, oh man, I nailed it. And it took me no effort! I got a card and I told them, and they're all going, no way! You're always so lucky. I go, I know, she got an extra card. I got a free rose. I didn't pay a dime, you know, and everyone is going that is so cool.

And I get home that night and she goes, Oh, thanks for the rose. Thanks for the card. We're going to do anything? I go, Oh, I was going to call a sitter or something. And I am so busy at work. I'm so sorry. You know, can you call someone? She goes, well, it's probably too late now. It's Valentine's and it's not a big deal, you know, no big deal. And and she goes I'll just go go make myself a sandwich. I know. Shut up. OK, and. So so here we are.

It gets worse, we're sitting on the couch, I'm sitting on the couch eating a peanut butter and jelly sandwich with my wife, and she looks at me and she goes, Hey, Francis, that card, I saw a stack of cards at Sandra's house from Costco that were the same as this one, did you get that card from Sandra? Wasn't being rude, just to asked the question, you know, and I I look at her and I go, think of all the money we saved. Oh, man, it's just, which was another dumb thing to say, you know, I thought it could be funny and oh, OK, forget about it. I love you, you know, but, you talk about you see, I got the job done. I did. You know what? Did she get a Valentine's? She got a card. She got a rose. She got something. I took care. I took care of Valentine's Day. See, that's my that's that's obligation. It means nothing to her.

And that's been my faith. There was no love. There's no desire. Wasn't out of this love for God. I was just OK, you know, I had to do it. He told me to give to the poor, you know, black guy came up to me, I'll give a little poor, you know? So, OK, I'll do it. You know, I'm going to do it. It was Chinese guy goes, Oh, you know, I better give I'll give to these minorities, you know? And it's just, you know, you just kind of do it because, OK, you're obligated. OK, here, give some to the black folk. You know, it just it means nothing. That's nothing. It's not the heart. It's not the obligation.

God is concerned about the heart. He loves a cheerful giver. You see, that's obligation. Now, let me contrast that. Let me contrast that to January. January was my 11 year anniversary. I thought about my anniversary. I thought about it like, see before you think I'm this horrible husband, OK? I thought about like three months, three months before it happened. And I started thinking about my wife. I mean, I love her, man. I would do something just awesome for her, you know. Eleven years out to that everyone kind of forgets after ten years. But what if I do some huge on the eleven?

You know, I start thinking and go, OK, she wants a CD player in her car? OK, I'll get her CD player, you know, I'll sneak the van away, you know, and say I got to fix something and then put a CD player in there. And then I thought, you know what? I'm going to write something out to her. I want to write something out and I'm going to go to a studio and record myself, OK, I'm gonna record. It's going to put the CD in with all of my thought, all of my heart. So so that on on our anniversary I go, honey, happy anniversary. Come on out here I wanna show you something. We get into the van, we're getting our van. And I you know, I sure look what I got you. And she's like, no way, I've always wanted music in the car. I got a CD player.

And then I grabbed the CD and I put it in. And this is what it's OK. Listen to it. Might have to turn it up, turn it up, kind of:

[with musical background] Happy anniversary, baby. This seemed like it just kept getting better and better every year. Make me love you more, I want you more and need you more. This is for

you. [Rapping, audience cheers] This is to my hottie did this happen? The latest, it got more than a month, you'll find something called Slippery Slope Slopes and wasabi. You're my queen. The woman of my dreams is prettiest girl I've ever seen or known got to my own makes me want to moan, uh, Lisa. Lisa, you're my honey. You may not be that funny, but you love me, though I don't got much money. You're my proverbs 31 and then some. I lost my hair. You didn't care. You still call me handsome. I can't sing, bought you a Tiny Ring with not much bling. Treat me like a king. What a dream to be on your team so much crap in this world you're the cream.

[singing] Ain't no woman like the one I got. Oh yeah. Oh yeah. I didn't know a pastor's wife would be. So if you are an insect I'd call you like a cute little thing with a great big soda. Never leave home without it. We belong together like wrinkles on yoda, we belong. We belong.

[rapping] Yes we belong like Cheech and Chong along with - [music cut off].

[Applause and cheering]

You see the difference between Valentine's Day and our anniversary. See the difference between obligation, let me just do it, get it done, and let me think let me out of the overflow of my heart, do. That's what we're talking about here. An attitude where you go. Let me just do something. No, no. Out of your heart. Go. You know what, God? Give me a love for the people in Tennessee. Let me give me a love for the people in inner city L.A. Give me a love for the people of Mexico, El Salvador. Give me a love for the people in Louisiana. Give me a love for the people in Pakistan.

I mean, a love for the for the people in, you know, in the Philippines. And, you know, just just all these different places, you know, where you just go, gosh, lord, I love them.

I mean, love these orphans in Uganda. God, let me love you, let me do something. I'm going to see what I'm going to do something so good for you because I love you. Let me prepare and put all of my heart into it. And you guys, when you do it that way, you think it was a pain to do all that stuff from my wife. I was on the funnest things I've ever done. Hey, my my little girls are even in the wrap later on. You know, I brought them in and they recorded and, you know, it was just as, you know, what a joy it is to put that thing in and go, honey, this is for you, because it was all in my heart, everything about me.

And you start doing that with God. You start thinking through, Lord, how can I bless you? Because you were hungry and I gave you something to eat. You were thirsty. I gave you something to drink. How'd you like that meal I gave you? How did you like this? It's more blessed to give and receive you guys the things we're talking about this week. This attitude is not one where you walk out of here and go, OK, I guess I'll do it.

No, I'm just saying you're stupid. If you don't, God's word leads to life. It does. This attitude leads to life. Christianity is not about half truths. It's about stupid if you don't. Let me pray for us. Oh, Father, I just pray that this was not just one big huddle. That ends there. Were all the players leave here and say, I can't wait till tomorrow for our next huddle? God, I pray that we would seriously consider whether or not we truly believe your word, that it is more blessed to give and to receive and that we would do things out of the joy and the life.

And following your commands. Oh, God, you are so, so good. I love you so much. You are everything and there's nothing like serving you, there's nothing like knowing you. There's nothing like giving to you. And I pray that we would believe that and start believing the lie that there is anything on this earth that is better than you. In Jesus name, I pray, Amen.

[End of Recording].