

FaithBIT



Made New through Faithful & Generous Giving

Reflection by Paul Carroll

I have been surrounded by people willing to mentor and guide me throughout my life. Their gifts of time, wisdom, and encouragement have shaped who I am and helped make it possible for me to thrive in life. Their generosity has inspired me to pass on what gifts I can through my own faithful giving and sharing.

Like talents, skills, and knowledge, money is also a gift. It's refreshing to stop thinking of money as MINE, but rather think of it as a gift I am asked to manage and share. I also believe that when these gifts are shared with others, those gifts are multiplied.

Life has taught me that happiness is fleeting; joy lasts longer. We all crave friendship because joy is easily shared between friends by building each other up. It is the act of helping a friend that teaches us the joy of helping others. I find it encouraging to extend that joy further out as I help and bless others by sharing what I am able. I have a theory that if I go to heaven, I get to relive the memories of the good I've done and the joy I've brought to others lives. And hell? Perhaps that is where I relive the pain I caused. Faith-filled giving helps bring joy and comfort to others beyond just my immediate family and friends, multiplying the gifts I have been given. That's pretty cool and brings a smile to my face every time I think about it.