

A hand is shown watering a small green plant with soil. The background is a bright sun with rays, creating a warm and hopeful atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Living as Citizens of the Kingdom

You Cannot Out-Give God (3)

Colossians 1:13

He [Jesus] **has** delivered us from the domain of darkness and has transferred us to the kingdom of His Beloved Son.

Philippians 3:20

But our citizenship is in heaven ...

Philippians 1:27 (NLT)

Above all, you must **live** as citizens of heaven.

A close-up photograph of a hand watering a small green seedling. The hand is positioned at the top left, with water dripping from the fingers onto the plant. The plant is growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a garden or natural setting. The overall mood is one of care and growth.

Scripture tells us:

Living as Kingdom Citizens profoundly changes our handling of God's finances and provision in our lives.

Luke 12:13–16

13. Someone in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”
14. But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or arbitrator over you?”
15. And He said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”
16. And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully,

Luke 12:17–20

17. and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’
18. And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
19. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’
20. But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’

Luke 12:21–24

21. So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”
22. And He said to His disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on.
23. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.
24. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!

Luke 12:25–28

25. And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?
26. If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?
27. Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
28. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!

Luke 12:29–32

- 29.** And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried.
- 30.** For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.
- 31.** Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.
- 32.** “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”

Luke 12:33–36

- 33.** Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.
- 34.** For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
- 35.** Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning,
- 36.** and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

Luke 12:37–40

- 37.** Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.
- 38.** If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!
- 39.** But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.
- 40.** You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”



First point

As Kingdom Citizens, Guard Against Covetousness
Do not earnestly desire or long for or lust after
something that doesn't belong to you.

Luke 12:15

And He said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

A close-up photograph of a hand watering a small green seedling. The hand is positioned at the top left, with water dripping from the fingers onto the plant. The plant is growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and yellow, suggesting a natural, sunlit environment. A semi-transparent dark grey box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

Ultimately the spirit of this world wants us:

- to love money more
- trust money more than the living God, Jehovah Jireh, our loving provider.

Colossians 1:13

He [Jesus] **has** delivered us from the domain of darkness and has transferred us to the kingdom of His Beloved Son.

Philippians 1:27 (NLT)

Above all, you must **live** as citizens of heaven.

How then are we to live and walk as heavenly citizens?

Galatians 5:24

And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Colossians 3:1-3

1. If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
2. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.
3. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

2 Timothy 3: 1-3

lovers of self and money

Ecclesiastes 5:10

we will grow dissatisfied with money

1 Timothy 6:10

the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil

Hebrews 13:5

keep your life free from the love of money.
God will NEVER forsake you.

A close-up photograph of a hand watering a small green seedling. The hand is positioned at the top left, with water dripping from the fingers onto the plant. The plant is growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and yellow, suggesting a bright, sunny outdoor setting. The overall mood is one of care and growth.

Second point

As Citizens of Heaven, we don't need to be anxious about the future.

Luke 12: 21

So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.

Proverbs 23:4-5

Do not toil or struggle for something that is fleeting

A close-up photograph of a hand watering a small green seedling. The hand is positioned at the top left, with water dripping from the fingers onto the plant. The plant is growing out of a mound of dark soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and yellow, suggesting a natural setting.

Third point

Kingdom Citizens are to seek His Kingdom first

Luke 12:31

... seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you

Matthew 6:33

... seek first the kingdom of God **and His righteousness,** and all these things will be added to you.

Luke 12:32

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Psalms 23

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ephesians 4:22-23 (Amplified Bible)

- 22.** Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterised your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion;
- 23.** And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude]

2 Timothy 3:4

Paul warns of being lovers of money and greedy.

Galatians 5:17-18

Paul warns that our flesh is opposed to the Spirit.
But if we are led by the Spirit then we are not
under the law.

Proverbs 4:7

Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom.
Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

Make Godly life choices and applications, based on Kingdom wisdom, which is knowing what to do through Spiritual insight and understanding.

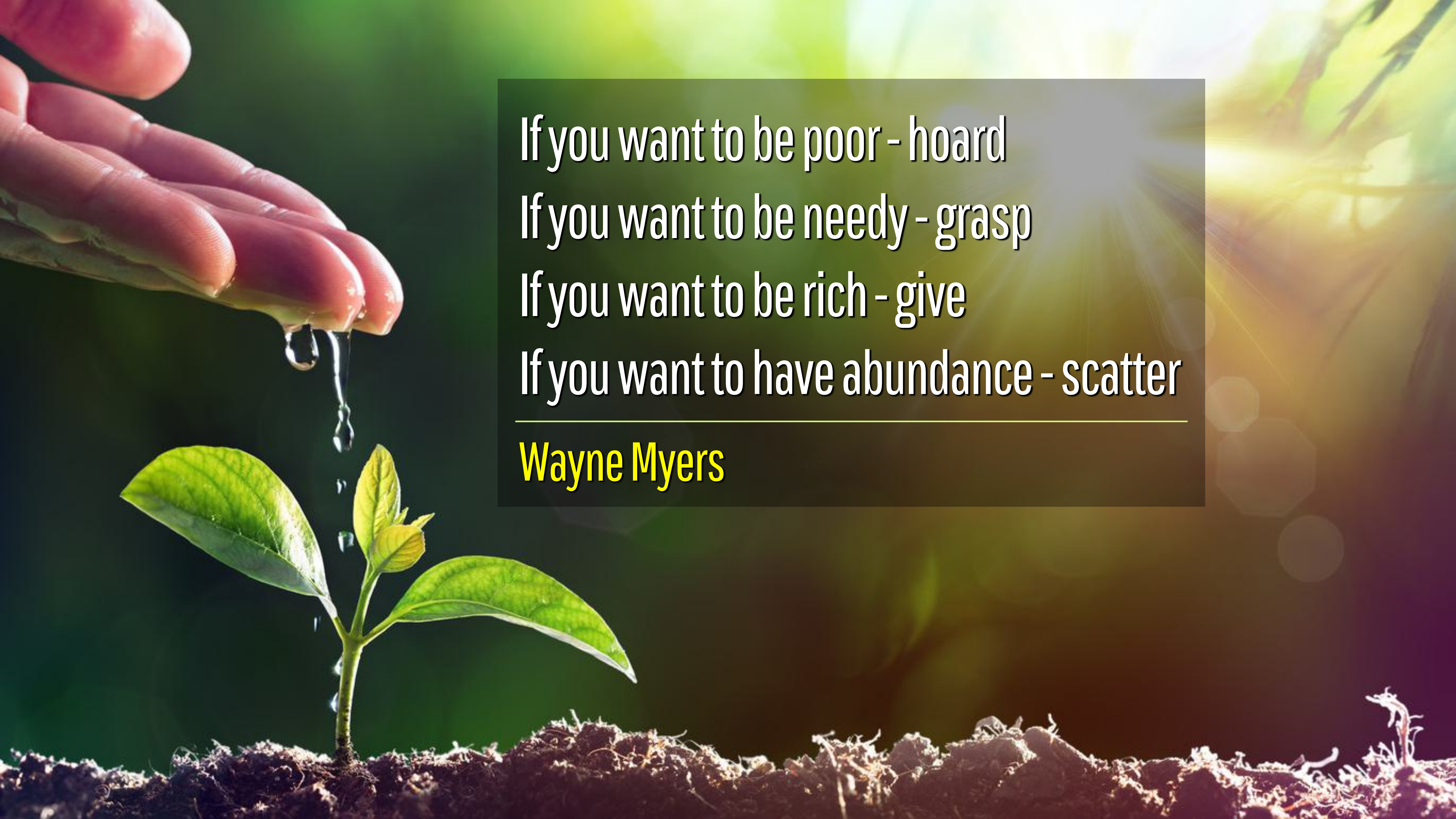
Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man,
but its end is the way to death.

A close-up photograph of a hand watering a small green seedling. The hand is positioned at the top left, with water dripping from the fingers onto the plant. The seedling has three vibrant green leaves and is growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural outdoor setting. The overall scene conveys a sense of care, growth, and nurturing.

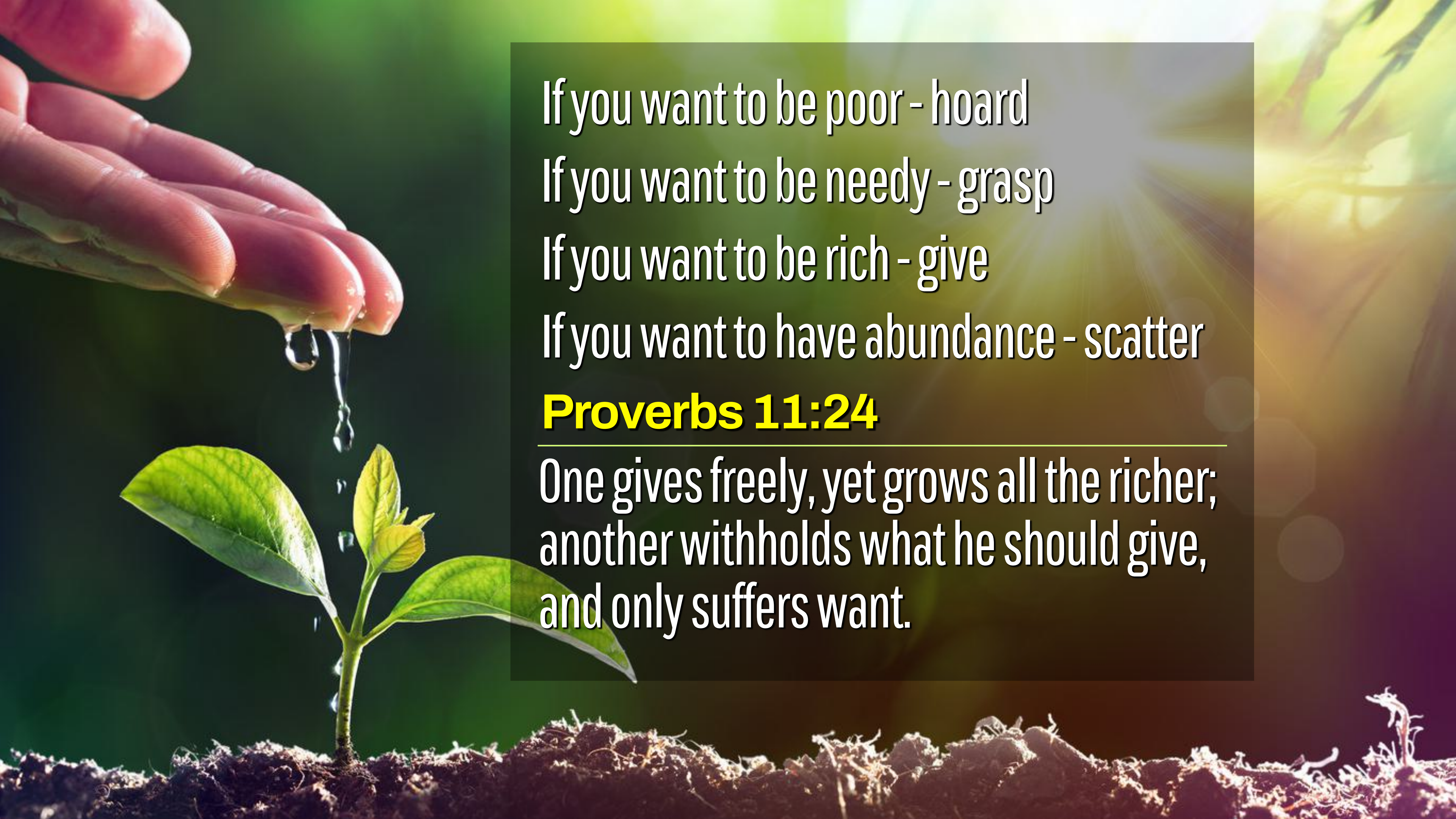
Be led by the Holy Spirit to walk how Jesus walked.
Seek **FIRST** His rule and reign in your life.

- John 14:31
- John 5:19-20
- John 12:49
- Luke 12:32

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If you want to be poor - hoard
If you want to be needy - grasp
If you want to be rich - give
If you want to have abundance - scatter

Wayne Myers



If you want to be poor - hoard
If you want to be needy - grasp
If you want to be rich - give
If you want to have abundance - scatter

Proverbs 11:24

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give,
and only suffers want.

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I have never known a grasping Christian who had an ability to receive a revelation and appropriate truth while maintaining a self-absorbed lifestyle.”

When you open your hands, you open your heart to a deeper intimacy with God, Who is known by His giving.”

Wayne Myers: Living Beyond the Possible

A close-up photograph of a hand watering a small green plant. The hand is positioned at the top left, with water dripping from the fingers onto the plant. The plant is growing out of a mound of dark soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and yellow, suggesting a natural setting with sunlight filtering through leaves.

Fourth point

In the process of giving to others, Kingdom Citizens begin to store up treasure in heaven.

Luke 12:33

Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.

Mark 10:29-30

29. Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for My sake and for the gospel,
30. who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

God doesn't need our money but He uses His citizens to bless others and bring glory to Himself. As citizens of the Kingdom, our hearts and our thoughts really ought to be in Heaven!

A hand is shown in the upper left corner, holding a small green seedling with two leaves over a mound of dark soil. The background is a soft-focus image of a tree with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

Fifth point

Kingdom Citizens are dressed and ready for action with their lamps burning


Luke 12:35-37

- 35.** Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning,
- 36.** and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.
- 37.** Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a single, clear water droplet between the thumb and index finger. The background is a soft-focus green and yellow, suggesting a natural setting with sunlight filtering through leaves.

How can we make ourselves ready?

- His rod and staff will guide and lead us.
- When we truly seek His rule and His reign, then He is faithful and true.
- He is the author and perfecter of our faith.
- He is the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last.

A photograph of a small, green seedling with two leaves growing out of a mound of dark, rich soil. The background is a soft-focus green and yellow, matching the overall theme of the image.

As we seek His rule and reign to be manifested in our lives and for His will to be done through us, He will continue our sanctification, He will prepare us so that we will be presented to Him as part of His spotless, perfected bride.