

## **Bethel Lutheran Theology on Tap**

**October 28, 2020**

As we approach Thanksgiving and the gifts we enjoy, the concept of giving thanks comes to mind. This session is dedicated to the various features of gifts and thankfulness. There are many parts of gifting and thankfulness. For instance, there's the act of giving something and expressing thanks for the gift. However, there's also the question of the recipient not accepting the gift. Or, the intended giver choosing not to grant the request of the seeker of the gift. Some Bible verses that might shed light on the question:

**Spirit of giving:**      **2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NIV**

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**Thankfulness for a gift:**    **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV**

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**Not accepting a gift:**      **Proverbs 15:27 NIV**

The greedy bring ruin to their households, but the one who hates bribes will live.

**Asking for a gift:**          **Matthew 7:7 NIV**

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.

**Not giving a gift:**            **James 4:3 ESV**

You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.