

FOREWORD

I couldn't sleep that night. Not sure why—it could have been stress or it could have been the three glasses of caffeinated sweet tea I drank late that evening. Who knows? But at about 2 a.m. I stopped tossing and turning, got out of bed, and grabbed the final manuscript of *Contagious Generosity* while I settled into a comfortable chair.

No offense Barry, but books without pictures always tend to make me a little drowsy—especially after midnight! My hope was to read a chapter and as fatigue set in, to slowly crawl off to sleep and drift in to *shuteye utopia*.

But no such luck. My tossing and turning continued. As Barry was *tossing* out ideas, I was *turning* the pages and learning from his lifelong learnings on the topic of giving.

In case you weren't aware, some Christians are quite skittish about the topic of giving! I appreciate the forthright yet gentle way in which Barry shares the truth. It bolsters one's confidence to know that God's Word has so much to say on the subject. When you give generously your example is contagious and motivates others to take your lead and share cheerfully with others.

Money and giving are explosive topics for people, and yet there is a desire to read what others think on the subject. Fortunately, in this case the reader will be exposed to God's teaching and not man's opinion. *Contagious Generosity* applies to your everyday life and your weekly paycheck.

This is easy reading and practical stuff--straight from the Bible. No wonder it's sensible and relevant! Several years ago I mentioned to someone, "I think Barry Cameron may be the only person I know who actually enjoys preaching on giving." But the more I've read his writings and gotten to know him, I've realized *why* he loves to write and talk on giving—it's obvious—he loves to give. God put that passion within Barry and he is trying to teach and share what the Bible teaches on the subject.

...Pastors will find illustrations and scriptural substantiation for writing their next sermon on stewardship.

...Christians will be reminded of the blessings and joy that come from faithfully giving back to God.

...And everyone will find practical advice and Biblical backing for why it's more blessed to give than to receive.

We never look more like God than when we give. For God so loved the world that He *gave*. Barry Cameron lives what he writes and practices what he preaches. My prayer is that as you read this book you will be infected with the same disease of generous giving.

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