

*Wisdom
in Practice*

A Generous Life

Proverbs 11:24-25, 1 Kings 17:7-16



Wisdom Literature

→ **Tools for the Journey**

Proverbs 3:1-2

¹ My son, do not forget my teaching, but
keep my commands in your heart,

² for they will **prolong** your life many years
and bring you **peace** and **prosperity**.



Five Capitals

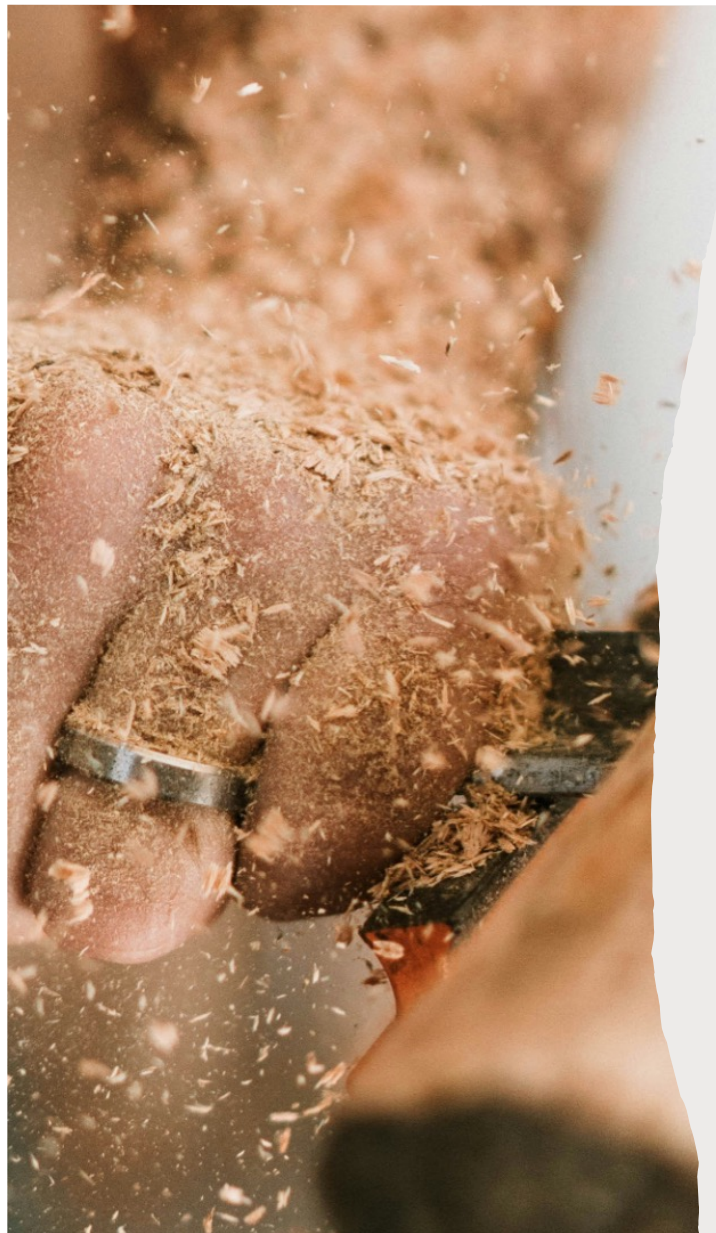
Spiritual (wisdom and power)

Relational (influence and impact)

Physical (time and energy)

Intellectual (creativity and insight)

Financial (dollars and cents)



Proverbs 11:24-25

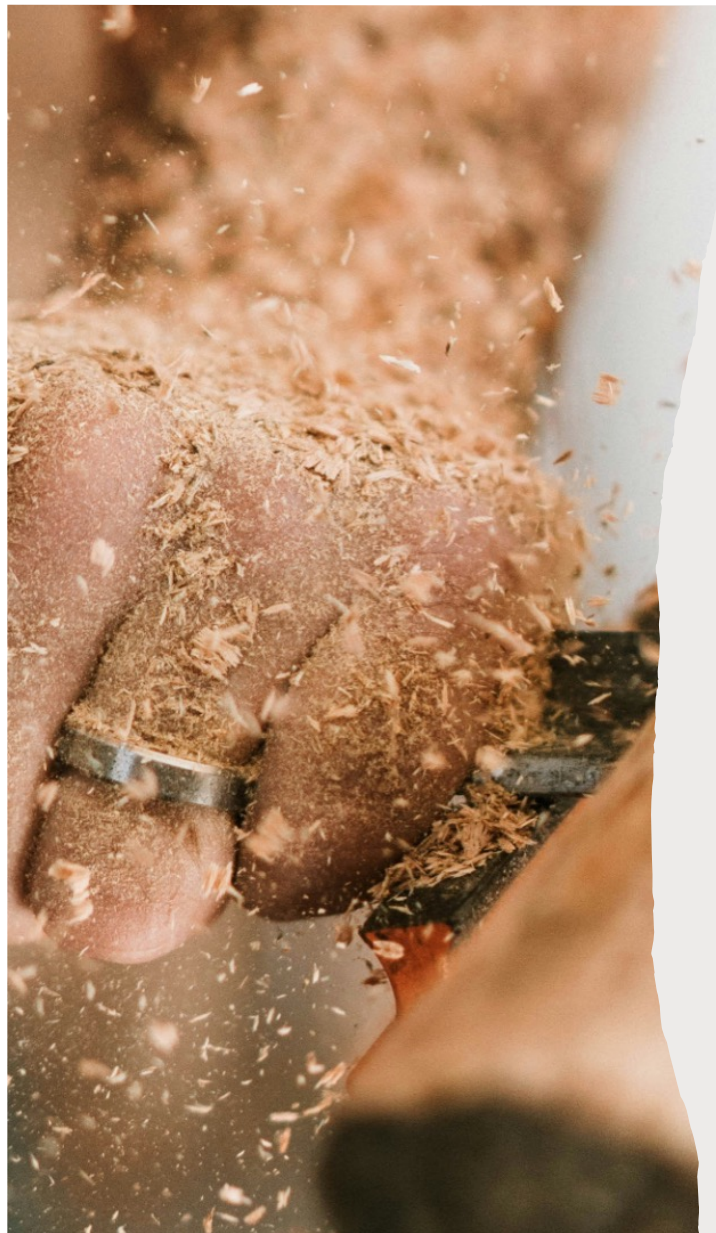
²⁴ One person gives freely, yet gains even more;
another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

²⁵ A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.



God created us **to live by His economy**, not the world's.

*One person gives freely, yet gains even more;
another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. (Proverbs 11:24)*



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World's Economy:

Accumulate >

Entitlement >

Protect

= **Burden**

God's Economy:

Receive >

Appreciate >

Share

= **Blessing**



Acts 20:35

³⁵ In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, **remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is *more blessed* to give than to receive.’ ”**

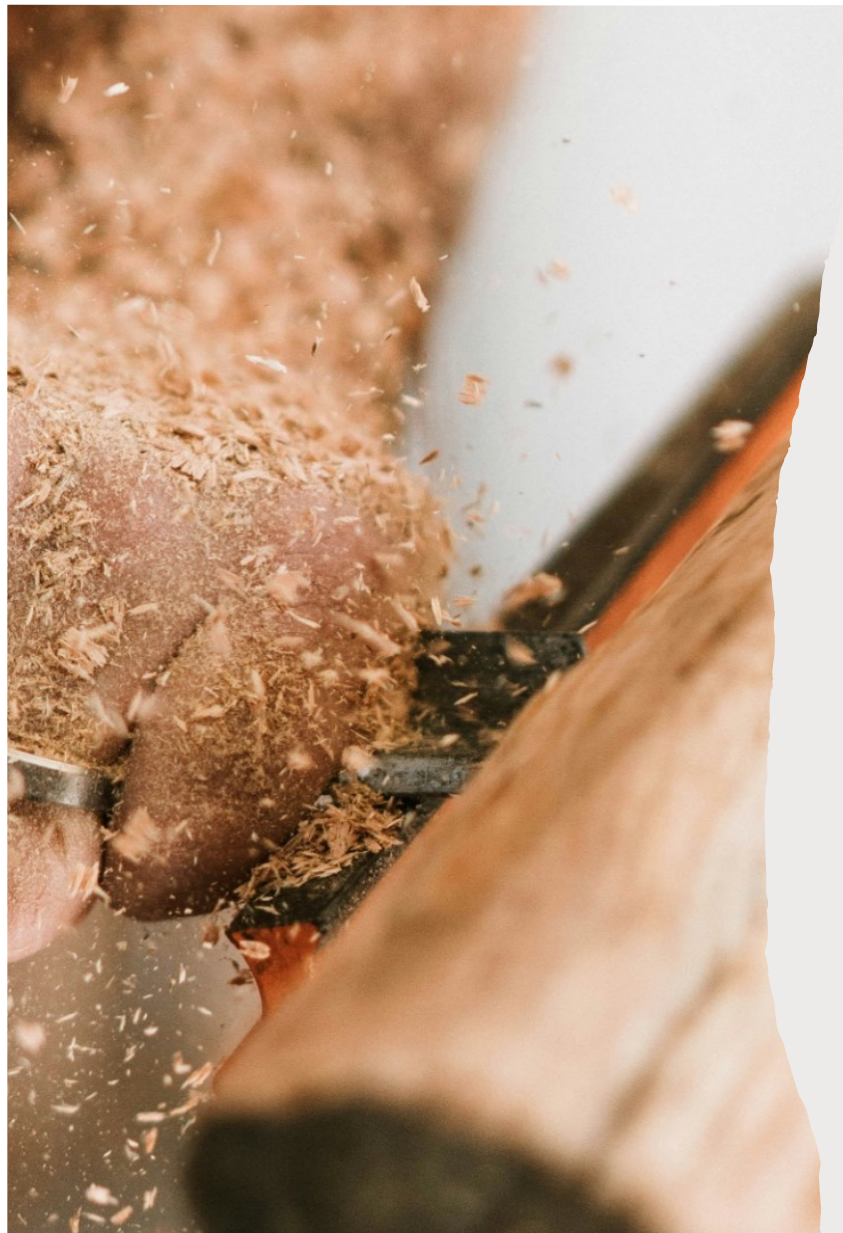
(Greek: makarios)

1 Kings 17:7-12

⁷ Some time later the brook dried up because **there had been no rain in the land.** ⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him: ⁹ “Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” ¹⁰ So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

¹² “As surely as the Lord your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”





Deuteronomy 11:16-17

¹⁶ Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. ¹⁷ Then the Lord's anger will burn against you, **and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce**, and you will soon perish from the good land the Lord is giving you.

1 Kings 17:7-12

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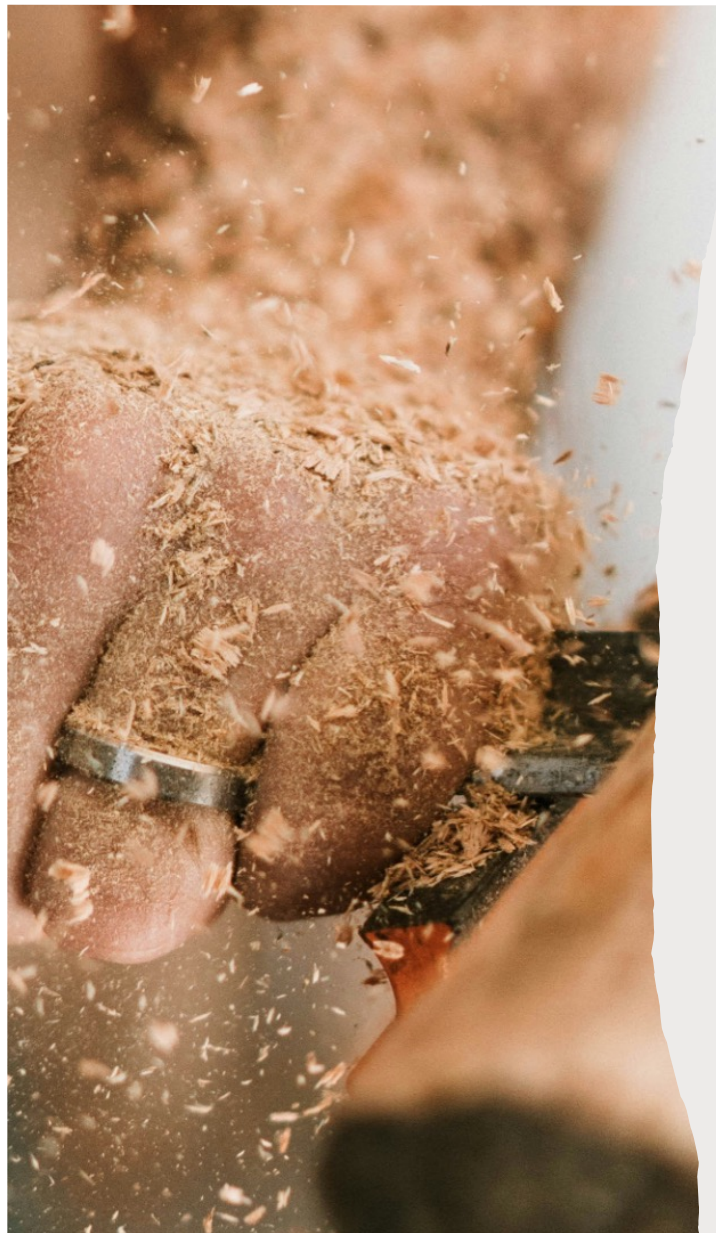


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Proverbs 11:24-25

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Generosity begins with **trusting the God who provides.**

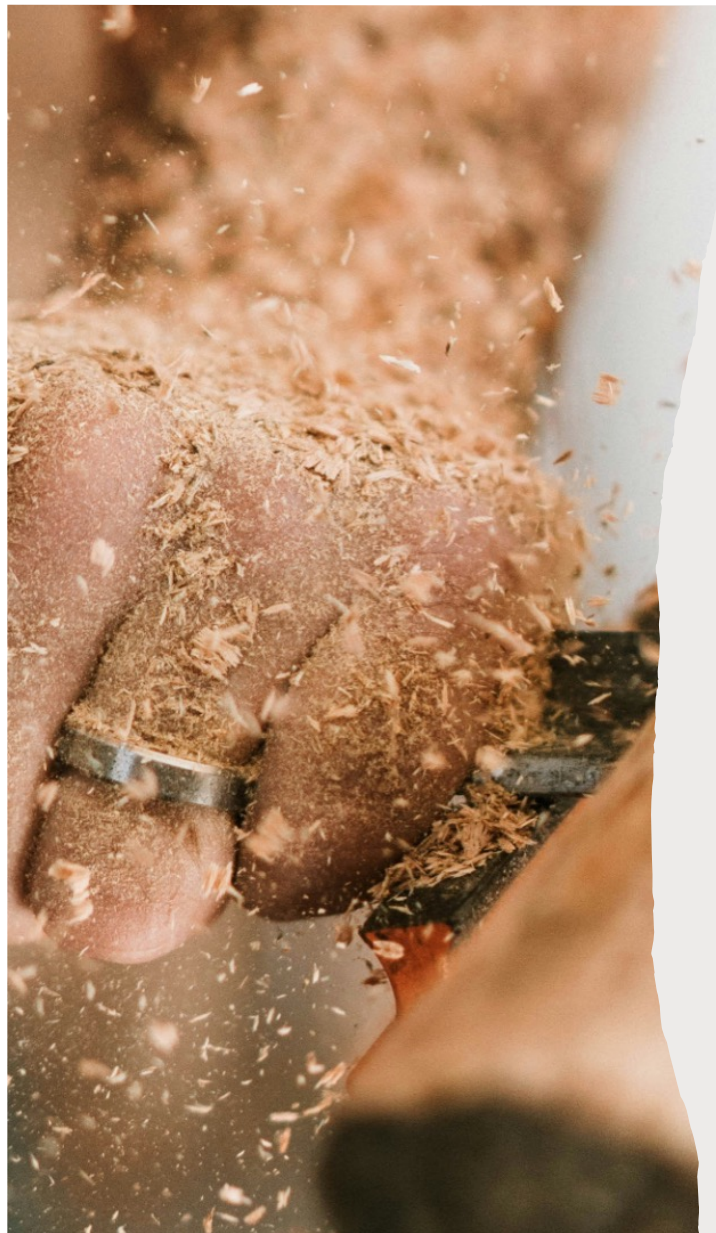
For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.'” (1 Kings 17:14)

1 Kings 17:13-14

¹³ Elijah said to her, “**Don’t be afraid.** Go home and do as you have said. But **first make a small loaf of bread for me** from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

¹⁴ For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.’”





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Matthew 6:22-24

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your **eyes are healthy**, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your **eyes are unhealthy**, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**



“Healthy Eye”

(ayin tovah)

**Abundance
Mindset**

= generosity

“Unhealthy Eye”

(ayin ra'ah)

**Scarcity
Mindset**

= stinginess



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You were made to both **refresh**
and **be refreshed**.

*A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.
(Proverbs 11:25)*

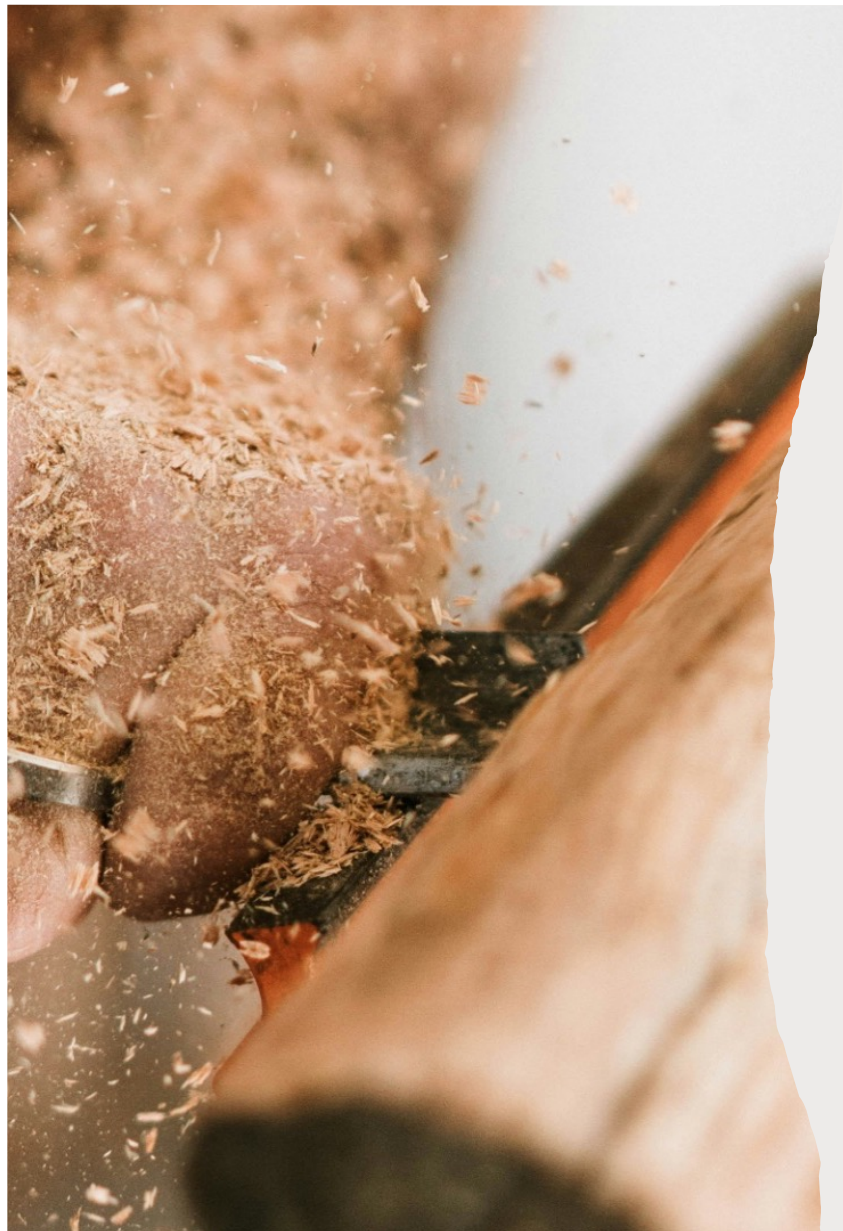
1 Kings 17:15-16

¹⁵ She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

Proverbs 11:24

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Remember:

1. **God created us to live by His economy**, not the world's.
2. Generosity begins with **trusting the God who provides**.
3. You were made to both **refresh** and **be refreshed**.



Which story are you
going to trust?