

## I OFFER, I GIVE...

“...nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing.”  
2 Samuel 24:24 NKJV

So often when challenged to give more we pull out the “Leftover List” from our pockets. From times of prayer and fasting, to volunteering or giving our finances we may look first at what we have left. What would fit into our schedules, what's most comfortable. One might look for a time that's more convenient or consider giving up a sweet treat or favorite TV series. A true sacrifice whether small or great is different for each individual. Even the smallest of fragments are valued by our Lord (John 6:11). Yet how beautiful are the sacrifices that cost us something! Consider the Widow who caught Jesus' gaze in the Temple as she gave out her lack, her poverty, while others gave out of their abundance (Mark 12:41-44). Jesus called His disciples to Himself to tell them she had put in more than all who had given. It cost her something. Let us consider David. He fell short in many ways but he had the heart of a true worshipper and warrior. Even at the lowest most difficult times in life David offered raw prayers of the heart, songs, praise and fasting. He once said he wouldn't offer up something to the Lord that cost him nothing. (2 Samuel 24:24). He is called a man after God's heart, who would do His will (Acts 13:22). What if we set this time aside to pursue after God's heart? That speaks to deep waters in my soul. To pursue Him without including my agenda in prayer and fasting today. Just as we would go before a King and bend our knee, how much more can we offer our Great King the bending of our heart and giving of our will in humility. Something that cost us our agenda, our time, our full attention.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, as I seek You in prayer and fasting today, I humbly come before you and offer. I come before You and give. Thank you that Your eye is upon me, and Your sweet presence is with Me. I offer time and whatever You may call for with bended heart and full attention on You. I am after Your heart Lord. Thank You for meeting with me here.

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