gratitude because Jesus had laid down His life for him (1 John 3:16-23). Emil used that simple object to stimulate his own generosity as he remembered the Savior's sacrifice.

How often do we think about the sacrifice on Calvary where Jesus paid the penalty for our sin with His own death on the cross? Emil's example inspires us in the midst of our most mundane activities to remember not just the thorns, the nails, and the spear-thrust, but the loving heart of Him who gave His life for us. —VCG

> Teach me to love as Thou dost love, And let the whole world know That Jesus Christ lives in my heart, His glorious light to show. —Brandt

Christ gave Himself for us that we might give ourselves for others.



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Remembered By A Nail

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. —1 John 3:16

Emil Mettler, a restaurant owner in London, was known for his generosity. He often fed people for nothing. If a representative of a

Christian organisation came in and told him of a need, he would open his cash drawer and give a sizeable donation.

One day Emil opened his cash drawer in the presence of a missionary official who noticed a nail among the bills and coins. Surprised at what he saw, the man asked, "What's that doing there?" Emil picked up the 6-inch spike and replied, "I keep this with my money to remind me of the price Christ paid for my salvation and what I owe Him in return."

Emil used that nail to remind himself that he owed the Lord a great debt of love and

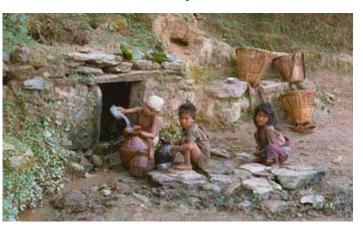






Romans: Truth in a Nutshell (unzipped for you) Generosity

(Matthew 6:19-21) ""Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; {20} "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. {21} "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."



Romans 12:13 gives two expressions of Christian generosity. It's a test:

1._____, verse 13a

(1 Timothy 6:8) "And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content."

(Galatians 6:10) "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."

[Matthew 6:1-4, 19-21, 25-34, 8:20, 10:9-10,]

(Matthew 13:22) ""Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and

the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful." [Matthew 13:44-46,]

(Matthew 16:26) ""For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

[Matthew18:9]

(Matthew 19:21) "Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."" [Matthew 19:23-24]

(*Matthew 19:29*) ""And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and







inherit eternal life."

[Matthew 21:13, 22:21, 25:14-36, 26:10-13]

(1 Timothy 6:17-19) "Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. [18] Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, [19] storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

2._____, verse 13b

(*Hebrews 13:2*) "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels."

(1 Peter 4:9) "Be hospitable to one another without grumbling."

(3 John 1:5-6) "Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, {6} who have borne witness of your love before the church..."

(2 Timothy 1:16) "The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain;"



(Luke 14:12-14) "Then He also said to him who invited Him, "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. {13} "But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. {14} "And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just."" (Titus 1:8) "but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled,"

