



MK Serve-1

## A Generous Performance

**“Give and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you”**

**Luke 6:38**

The story is told that in 1892, two young men who were attending Leland Stanford University decided to invite Ignacy Paderewski, the famous Polish pianist, composer and statesman, to perform a piano recital in San Jose, California. Due to various problems with schedule and publicity only a few people attended the concert. The boys asked the pianist not to play to such a small crowd, but he performed nevertheless, waiving his concert fee.

When the concert was over, the proceeds from the performance totaled only \$1600, well short of the \$3000 guarantee required by the pianist's manager. Humiliated, the boys sought out the great artist and told him of their efforts. They gave him the entire \$1,600 and a promissory note for the remaining \$400, explaining that they would earn the amount and pay off the balance as soon as possible.

“No, boys, that won't do,” He told them. Tearing up the note he returned the money to them and said, “Now take all of your expenses out of the \$1,600 and each of you keep 10 percent for the balance of your work and give me the rest.”

The years rolled by. When World War I arrived, Paderewski became an active member in politics and, at the conclusion of the war in 1919 was elected as Poland's first prime minister. As a result of the war, thousands of Poles were facing massive starvation. Paderewski strove with all his means to bring attention to his country's plight and find outside supporters to relieve the suffering of his fellow countrymen. Because of the devastation in Europe, there was only one man in the entire world who could help him: The president of the United States.

That man just happened to be Herbert Hoover, who years before had been one of the two students who had held the disastrous benefit concert! Since that time, the two men had maintained a close friendship. Hoover not repaid his debt to Paderewski, organizing the largest relief effort ever mounted in Europe. Thousands of tons of food began to enter Poland for distribution by the premier— feeding an estimated 1.5 million people in that country alone by the end of 1918.

Always treat others people in your life the way that you would want to be treated, because you never know when the tables will be turned.

### **Additional Scriptures:**

Matthew 7:12

II Corinthians 9:5-15

Matthew 25:31-46

Galatians 5:13-15

Romans 13:8-10

Hebrews 13:2-3

FAMILY ME FRIENDS