

Bride Wanted Bigger Gift

A wedding guest in the United Kingdom revealed she was contacted by newlyweds to say her gift “wasn’t generous enough.”

The unnamed guest posted to a forum on Mumsnet asking for advice after she was told the check (for \$128 in U.S. currency) wasn’t enough. She reported the couple, who had asked for cash gifts, had emailed to say they were “surprised” by her contribution and suggested an “adjustment.”

She went on to say that the bride and groom declared, “We were surprised that your contribution didn’t seem to match the warmth of your good wishes on our big day. In view of your own position, if you wanted to send any adjustment, it would be thankfully received.”

The wedding guest assumed that the reference to her position was in regard to a recent inheritance. She then asked in her post: “Should I reply, ring them, ignore it or what?”



The suggestions ranged from canceling the check, to telling mutual friends about the incident, to sending a glitter bomb. Instead, she chose to respond with the following, “I assume this was some sort of mistake?” enclosing a copy of the *Gift Table* card, which read: *We thank you, but your presence is our greatest gift. Love, Melissa & Terry.*

Many of us struggle with being as generous as our faith calls us to be. But perhaps the real lesson of this story lies at the other end – learning to be content with what we receive. Judging others for their lack of generosity comes easy. What’s much harder is to keep one’s sense of entitlement in check.

The world doesn’t owe us as much as we tend to think. When we have to resort to shaming others to get what we want out of them, it might be time to let it go. It’s just not worth forfeiting our contentment, not to mention the likelihood of losing a relationship.

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have; for He has said, “I will never fail you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5 RSV).

– Beecher Hunter