

Raising Our Standard of Giving

2 Corinthians 9:10-15

How Much Should We Be Giving?

- **And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's. It is holy to the LORD. (Lev. 27:30)**
- **You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year. And you shall eat before the LORD your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and flocks, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always. (Deut. 14:22)**

How Much Should We Be Giving?

- **At the end of every third year you shall bring out the tithe of your produce of that year and store it up within your gates. And the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are within your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do. (Deut. 14:28-29)**
- **Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine. (Prov. 3:9)**

How Much Should We Be Giving?

- **Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. (Mal. 3:8)**
- **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. (Matt. 23:23)**

How Much Should We Be Giving?

- **...while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men. (2 Cor. 9:13)**
- **Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you. (Deut. 16:16-17)**

When Should We Give?

- **How soon do you want to experience God's blessing?**
- **Do you want to be sure the money goes to God's kingdom, or are you willing to risk that it won't?**
- **Does it really require faith to part with your money when you die?**
- ***Do your givin' while you're livin' so you're knowin' where it's goin'!***

When Should We Give?

- Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. (1 Cor. 3:12-13)**

Why Has God Given Us So Much?

- **...while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. (2 Cor. 9:11)**
- **For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack – that there may be equality. As it is written, “He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack.” (2 Cor. 8:13-15)**

Why Has God Given Us So Much?

- ...Give me neither poverty nor riches—feed me with the food allotted to me; Lest I be full and deny You, and say, “Who is the LORD?” Or lest I be poor and steal, and profane the name of my God. (Prov. 30:8-9)**
- For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” (Est. 4:14)**

To What Causes Should We Give?

- **Preaching and Teaching of the Gospel**
 - **Galatians 6:6**
- **The Poor**
 - **Romans 15:26**
- **All Men, Especially Christians**
 - **Galatians 6:10**

How Can We Excel at Giving?

- Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality...(Rom. 12:6-8)**

How Can We Excel at Giving?

- **Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. (Matt. 6:1)**
- **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matt. 5:16)**
- **And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works (Heb. 10:24)**

How Can We Excel at Giving?

- **But as you abound in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace also. I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others. (2 Cor. 8:7-8)**
- **Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the LORD; and King David also rejoiced greatly. (1 Chron. 29:9)**

Five Minutes After We Die, What Will We Wish We Had Given?

- There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. (Luke 16:19)**
- *It ought to be the business of every day to prepare for our last day.***
- *Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last.***

The Greatest Joy

- Giving fulfills the 2 Greatest Commands – Loving God and our Neighbor**
- Consider the transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge**
- Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you. (Luke 6:38)**