

FREEDOM!

The Freedom of Giving..

FREEDOM SERIES - WEEK #1

1MOSAIC CHURCH

FEBRUARY 11, 2024







Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

NIV 2 Corinthians 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

^{NIV} **Matthew 6:24-26, 33-34** "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money [Mammon]. ²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?... ³³ But **seek first his kingdom** and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore **do not worry** about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

NIV Deuteronomy 8:18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth...

NIV 1 Corinthians 16:2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

NIV Exodus 23:14-15 ¹⁴ "Three times a year you are to celebrate a festival to me. ¹⁵ "Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread; for seven days eat bread made without yeast, as I commanded you... No one is to appear before me empty-handed."

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

^{NLT} **Psalm 96:4-9** ⁴ Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! He is to be revered above all the gods. ⁵ The gods of other nations are merely idols, but the LORD made the heavens! ⁶ Honor and majesty surround him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ⁷ O nations of the world, recognize the LORD; recognize that the LORD is glorious and strong. ⁸ Give to the LORD the glory he deserves! **Bring your offering and come to worship him.** ⁹ Worship the LORD in all his holy splendor. Let all the earth tremble before him.

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

- ◎ **Point #1: Who are we going to Serve?**
 - God or Money (wealth / possessions)?
- ◎ **Point #2: Giving is something Holy**
 - Giving is connected to Worship
- ◎ **Point #3: Giving is by Grace and not by Law**
 - There is a “Grace of Giving”

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

*NIV 2 Corinthians 8:1, 5-9 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the **grace** that God has given the Macedonian churches....⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of **grace** on your part. ⁷ But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this **grace of giving**. ⁸ I am not commanding you [**Law**], but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.*

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

NIV 2 Corinthians 8:10-12 ¹⁰ And here is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, **according to your means.** ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have....**9:5-8** So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given. ⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what he has decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And **God is able** to make **all grace** abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work

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- ◎ **Point #2: Giving is something Holy**
 - Giving is connected to Worship
- ◎ **Point #3: Giving is by Grace and not by Law**
 - There is a “Grace of Giving”
- ◎ **Point #4: Giving requires Faith**
 - Faith is progressive...our Faith should grow over time

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

^{NIV} **Hebrews 11:6** *And without **faith** it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*

^{NIV} **2 Corinthians 5:7** *We live by **faith**, not by sight.*

^{Message} **Galatians 5:6** *I suspect you would never intend this, but this is what happens. When you attempt to live by your own religious plans and projects [living by Law], you are cut off from Christ, you fall out of grace. Meanwhile, we expectantly wait for a satisfying relationship with the Spirit. For in Christ, neither our most conscientious religion nor disregard of religion amounts to anything. What matters is something far more interior [from the heart]: **faith expressed in love.***

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 - There is a “Grace of Giving”
- ◎ **Point #4: Giving requires Faith**
 - Faith is progressive...it should grow over time
- ◎ **Point #5: The Biblical Standard of Giving is the Tithe, a Tenth.**

Freedom Week #1: The Freedom of Giving

*NIV **Genesis 14:18-20** ¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem {18 That is, Jerusalem} brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, ¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. ²⁰ And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a **tenth** of everything.*

*NIV **Genesis 28:16-20** ¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." ... ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow to God, saying, "...of all that you give me I will give you a **tenth**."*

*NIV **Deuteronomy 14:22** Be sure to set aside a **tenth** of all that your fields produce each year.*

The Freedom of Giving: Practical Take-Away's

- 1. Be Prayerful. Never give except after prayer.**
- 2. If married, be in Agreement with your spouse.**
- 3. Avoid Impulsive, Emotional Giving.**
- 4. Inspect the Organization:**
 - Is it bearing fruit for the kingdom of God?**
 - Is it being run responsibly and Biblically?**
 - Are the leaders prayerful and careful?**
 - Is the leadership willing to share the financial reports?**
- 5. Stay Faithful and Consistent.**

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Message **Romans 12:1-2** *So here is what I want you to do, **God helping you:** Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. ² Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, **fix your attention on God.** You will be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you and develops well-formed maturity in you.*

CREATED TO CONNECT



06:00 PM
7:45 PM-ISH



Mondays
February 12, 2024 -
March 18, 2024



1 Mosaic Church
1002 Maple Ave., Adrian, MI

