



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: Because of You: Week 2 (February 18, 2024)

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). Step 1: GATHER with your family or group. Step 2: REVIEW and DISCUSS the key points and scriptures from the sermon. Step 3: PRAY for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.

DISCUSSION STARTER

Think of a time when you or someone you knew gave out of gratitude and not obligation, by giving generously of your time, talent, and treasure. Share and discuss.

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Exodus 36:2. Using a good Bible Study tools like [Bible Hub \(biblehub.com\)](http://Bible Hub (biblehub.com)), [Blue Letter Bible \(blueletterbible.org\)](http://Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)), [Got Questions \(gotquestions.org\)](http://Got Questions (gotquestions.org)), and [Enduring Word \(enduringword.com\)](http://Enduring Word (enduringword.com)) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: Why does the LORD give us skills and abilities? Are you using your talents for God's glory? How? God has given you talents for you to use as a co-builder of His Church (Matt. 25:14-30). Are you using your spiritual gifts for Him? Every person's gift is needed in the body of Christ because no one person has them all (1 Cor. 12:13-27). Moses could not have built the Tabernacle on his own. Christ also wants you to be His laborer (Col. 3:23). Are you laboring for His glory or your own?

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Exodus 36:3-4. Using a good Bible Study tools like [Bible Hub \(biblehub.com\)](http://Bible Hub (biblehub.com)), [Blue Letter Bible \(blueletterbible.org\)](http://Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)), [Got Questions \(gotquestions.org\)](http://Got Questions (gotquestions.org)), and [Enduring Word \(enduringword.com\)](http://Enduring Word (enduringword.com)) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: How did the Jews respond to God's calling through Moses? What does Psalm 24:1 tell us? In what ways does the Israelite's willingness to contribute freewill offerings reflect their relationship with God? How can this be applied to our modern-day offerings or tithing practices? How does the principle of freewill offering differ from giving out of obligation, and how can we embody this principle? After hearing Moses' call for the people to give, there was an outpouring of offerings and laborers who responded to God's call in their hearts. The Jews knew that God gave them everything they had when He freed them from captivity (Exodus 12:35-36). Thus, they gave from the things that belonged to God. How was the early Church inspired (see Acts 4:23-35 & 2 Cor. 8:1-5) by their example of generosity? Are you giving to God from what He has given you? Or, has your coveting robbed God from His resources? According to Romans 12:1 we should tithe our life as a "_____". Are you giving God the best of your time, talent, and treasure as a living sacrifice?

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Exodus 36:5-7. Using a good Bible Study tools like [Bible Hub \(biblehub.com\)](http://Bible Hub (biblehub.com)), [Blue Letter Bible \(blueletterbible.org\)](http://Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)), [Got Questions \(gotquestions.org\)](http://Got Questions (gotquestions.org)), and [Enduring Word \(enduringword.com\)](http://Enduring Word (enduringword.com)) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: How did the Jews respond to God's calling? What did Moses have to do? Why do you think God requested these offerings from the Israelites? What do you think caused them to give more than was expected for the project? Why does God expect us to bring offerings to him today? What do these offerings look like in your context? Although the main focus of this story was the faith of the Jews in giving, Moses also needed to exhibit faith as well. How did Moses exercise his faith? If you are led by the Spirit, you will know when you have enough and when you can return or tithe the rest. What is it called when you keep more than you need?

DOING THE WORD

Ultimately, God gave the resources and skills required for the tabernacle's construction. What kind of thoughts or feelings stir up in you as you think about the display of God's generosity so that He could be present with us? The people gave generously toward the construction of the tabernacle! In other words, it was costly to them. What is God's presence worth to you? Do you see it as costly to us today? God equips or gifts His people through the Holy Spirit to carry out His work. How familiar are you with how He has equipped you? Jesus' life meant God was present with His people in the flesh rather than in a cloud-filled tabernacle. What does it mean to you that God would go to such great lengths to be with us? God moves when we become eager to join His work. How eager are you?