

Small Group Study Questions

Sermon on January 7, 2024

1 Chronicles 29:6-19 (NASB)

6 Then the rulers of the fathers' households, the leaders of the tribes of Israel, and the commanders of thousands and hundreds, with the supervisors of the king's work, offered willingly; 7 and for the service of the house of God they gave five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of brass, and a hundred thousand talents of iron. 8 Whoever possessed precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the Lord, in care of Jehiel the Gershonite. 9 Then the people rejoiced because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the Lord wholeheartedly, and King David also rejoiced greatly.

10 So David blessed the Lord in the sight of all the assembly; and David said, "Blessed are You, Lord God of Israel our father, forever and ever. 11 Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and on the earth; Yours is the dominion, Lord, and You exalt Yourself as head over all. 12 Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone. 13 Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name.

14 "But who am I and who are my people that we should be able to offer as generously as this? For all things come from You, and from Your hand we have given to You. 15 For we are strangers before You, and temporary residents, as all our fathers were; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. 16 Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided to build You a house for Your holy name, it is from Your hand, and everything is Yours. 17 Since I know, my God, that You put the heart to the test and delight in uprightness, I, in the integrity of my heart, have willingly offered all these things; so now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here, make their offerings willingly to You. 18 Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intentions of the hearts of Your people, and direct their hearts to You; 19 and give my son Solomon a perfect heart to keep Your commandments, Your testimonies, and Your statutes, and to do them all, and to build the temple for which I have made provision."

DIGGING DEEPER What's your experience of giving financially to God? Why wasn't King David allowed to build the first temple? (Hint: 1 Chronicles 22:7-10) Read 1 Chronicles 29:1-9 Why did David provide so much toward something he couldn't build? What was David's attitude to giving to the future temple? (Hint: 1 Chronicles 29:3) In verse 5, David lays down a challenge to the people. Why would it be important for him to do this? Verse 9 lays out the result of the people's giving. Is this a common response or not? Why? Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-15 What are the descriptions of God that David praises him for? What are the descriptions of the people that David uses?

Compare the two descriptions. Is God like us? Who is greater? And by how much?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read 1 Chronicles 29:16-19 What is the intention that David prays stays in the hearts of the people?
Is there a proportional relationship between how great God is in our eyes and how willing and generous our gifts to this great God are?
Does our responsiveness in giving indicate something about the state of our hearts before God?
TAKING IT HOME
PRAYER REQUEST