The Ultimate Sacrifice

- Communion ~ a ceremony centered around Fellowship with God through Jesus' sacrificial death.
 - ☆ It remembers the ______ of Christ (through the symbolism of Bread – representing His body broken for us).
 - ☆ It also remembers the _____ of Christ (through the symbolism of juice – representing the shed blood of His sacrifice).



₹ 2 Corinthians 8:9 / Philippians 2:5-11



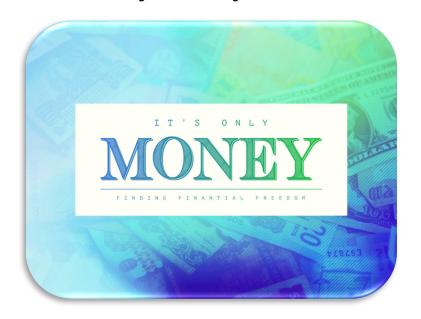
MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS To...

- <u>Make a Faith Decision</u> ~ Prayerfully place my <u>faith</u> in Jesus Christ, God's Son, by <u>recognizing Him</u> as my personal <u>Lord</u> and <u>Savior</u> and by asking and receiving the forgiveness of my sins.
- ☐ Rejoice With Joy ~ Regardless of my present circumstances, I choose to rejoice knowing that God's grace is sufficient to carry me through every trial and tribulation!
- ☐ <u>Fight the Temptation of Self-Preservation</u> ~ Evaluate ways in which I've been more focused on <u>safeguarding</u> my own existence than trusting God and investing in His will and Kingdom.
- Find Freedom in Sacrifice ~ I will look for ways in which I can make a greater difference in the world around me through sacrifice, generosity, and giving and then enjoy the freedom that results from such obedience!



MESSAGE GUIDE

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer Sunday: January 8, 2023



¹ Lowery, D. K. (1985). <u>2 Corinthians</u>. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 573). Victor Books.

<u>Message Talk Sheet</u>

Date: January 8, 2023

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer

SERIES: 2023 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Today's Message:

IT'S ONLY MONEY

"Faith, Joy & Finances"
Finding Financial Freedom
(Part 1)

Text: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15



"Faith, Joy & Finances"

2023 Stewardship Series

▶ Nothing touches the heartstrings of people like a message on finances.



Text: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

X	The	struggling	churches	i
	Macedonia (
	Thes	salonica, &).

Having A Strategy for our Finances is a Key to _____

_
_

_____ in Life & Finances Results from A _____ Relationship With God.

₩ Without faith – we cannot have a relationship with God (Hebrews 11:6).

Message Talk Sheet (Continued...)

¥	Our 2023 Theme:!		
#	The churches in <u>Macedonia</u> were facing severe trials and extreme poverty (Phil. 1:29–30; 1 Thes. 1:6), but they remained steadfast (Phil. 1:5; 1 Thess. 1:7). ¹		
¥	Paul's Church Plants – on his 2 nd Missionary Journey: Philippi (Acts 16:12–40), Thessalonica (Acts 17:1–9), and Berea (Acts 17:10–15).		
	Flows From A Heart of Self-Sacrifice,		
Not	Self-Preservation.		
¥	1 John 2:15-17 \sim "Do not love the world or the things in the world"		
¥	Severe tests of <u>affliction</u> and <u>extreme circumstances of poverty</u> do not have to determine our financial freedom or generosity.		
	☆ Luke 6:38 ~ ", and it will be given to you…"		
	☆ Acts 20:33-35 ~ "It is more blessed to give than to receive."		
	☆ John 19:30; Luke 23:46 ~ The Example of Jesus		
	☆ Matthew 25:21, 23; Luke 19:17 ~ "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the of your lord."		
¥	The favor of God's blessings and the reward of His grace will more than <u>match</u> and <u>outpace</u> your loss – and result in an overflowing abundance!		
	The Example the Macedonians as well as Christ Jesus		

The Ultimate Sacrifice

- ► Communion ~ a ceremony centered around Fellowship with God through Jesus' sacrificial death.
 - ☆ It remembers the Body of Christ (through the symbolism of Bread – representing His body broken for us).
 - It also remembers the <u>Blood</u> of Christ (through the symbolism of juice representing the shed blood of His sacrifice).



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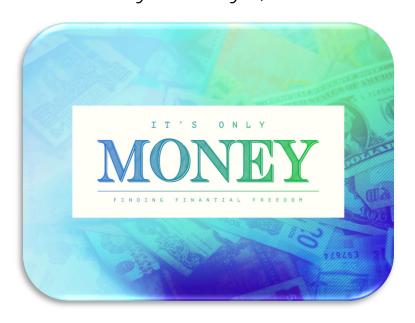
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Text: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

★ The struggling churches in Macedonia (Philippi, Thessalonica, & Berea).

Having A Strategy for our Finances is a Key to Successful Stewardship.

<u>IOY</u> in Life & Finances Results from A **<u>FAITH</u>** Relationship With God.

₩ Without faith – we cannot have a relationship with God (Hebrews 11:6).

Message Talk Sheet (Continued...)

Ψ Our 2023 Theme: Rejoice Always!

- ▼ The churches in <u>Macedonia</u> were facing severe trials and extreme poverty (Phil. 1:29–30; 1 Thes. 1:6), but they remained steadfast (Phil. 1:5; 1 Thess. 1:7). ¹
- ♣ Paul's Church Plants on his 2nd Missionary Journey: Philippi (Acts 16:12–40), Thessalonica (Acts 17:1–9), and Berea (Acts 17:10–15).



Generosity Flows From A Heart of Self-Sacrifice, Not Self-Preservation.

- № 1 John 2:15-17 ~ "Do not love the world or the things in the world..."
- Severe tests of <u>affliction</u> and <u>extreme circumstances of poverty</u> do not have to determine our financial freedom or generosity.
 - ★ Luke 6:38 ~ "Give, and it will be given to you..."
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- ▼ The favor of God's blessings and the reward of His grace will more than <u>match</u> and <u>outpace</u> your loss and result in an overflowing abundance!

The Example the Macedonians as well as Christ Jesus Should Be More Than Enough To <u>MOTIVATE</u> Us!