

Christianity 101

Giving Part 2

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Phil 4:15-¹⁵ And you Philippians know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving except you alone. ¹⁶ For even in Thessalonica you sent gifts for my need several times. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit^[e] that is increasing to your account. ¹⁸ But I have received everything in full, and I have an abundance. I am fully supplied,^[f] having received from Epaphroditus what you provided—a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

II. Why don't some of us not give?

A. **May think it's all ours**

Psalm 24:1 The earth and everything in it,
the world and its inhabitants,
belong to the LORD;

B. **May simply not trust**

Matthew 6:31 So don't worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?'

C. May be unaware of what God expects

III. Why give?

A. Because it's the right thing to do

B. Because it's a matter of faith

Luke 18: ¹⁸ A ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁹ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him. "No one is good except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: **Do not commit adultery; do not murder; do not steal; do not bear false witness; honor your father and mother.**" ^[a]

²¹ "I have kept all these from my youth," he said.

²² When Jesus heard this, he told him, "You still lack one thing: Sell all you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

²³ After he heard this, he became extremely sad, because he was very rich.

C. Because we get blessed!

1. It's means rewards in Heaven

Matthew 6:19-¹⁹ "Don't store up for yourselves treasures^[a] on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. It means results on earth

2 Corinthians 9:6 The point is this:^[a] The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously.

IV. How much do we give?

I Corinthians 16:1 Now about the collection for the saints: Do the same as I instructed the Galatian churches. ² On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he is prospering, so that no collections will need to be made when I come.

II Cor 9:⁶ The point is this:^[a] The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.

A. Regularly

I Corinthians 16:1 Now about the collection for the saints: Do the same as I instructed the Galatian churches.

B. Thoughtfully

II Cor 9:⁷ Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion,

C. Generously

II Cor 9:⁶ The point is this:^[a] The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously.

“I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If

our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditures excludes them.” — C.S. Lewis

D. Joyfully

II Cor 9:⁷ God loves a cheerful giver.