

## Grownups

### Generosity/Giving/Stewardship

2.22.26

## Resources

[crown.org](http://crown.org)

[daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com)

I Peter 2:2 Like newborn infants, desire the pure milk of the word,<sup>[a]</sup> so that by it you may grow up into your salvation,

**Phil 4:15-<sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> For even in Thessalonica you sent gifts for my need several times. <sup>17</sup> Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit<sup>[e]</sup> that is increasing to your account. <sup>18</sup> But I have received everything in full, and I have an abundance. I am fully supplied,<sup>[f]</sup> having received from Epaphroditus what you provided—a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> And my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**

**1) It progresses the Gospel**

**<sup>16</sup> For even in Thessalonica you sent gifts for my need several times.**

**2) It brings great profit**

**<sup>17</sup> Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit<sup>[e]</sup> that is increasing to your account.**

3) It pleases the Lord

—a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

4) It promises more provision

**<sup>19</sup> And my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**

I. General observations about generosity.

A. Talking about giving can be stressful!!!!

**B. Scripture has much to say about our money**

**Scripture has a tremendous amount to say about money or material possessions. Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables of Jesus deal with money. One out of every ten verses in the New Testament deal with this subject. Scripture has 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but over 2,000 verses on the subject of money. J. Hampton Keathley III**

C. Jesus had much to say about giving!

--Jesus taught a lot about giving

--Jesus showed us how to use money

--Jesus paid what he owed

Matthew 17:<sup>21</sup> "Caesar's," they said to him.

Then he said to them, "Give, then, to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

--Jesus communicated the dangers of money

Matthew 6: 24 "No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

--Jesus showed us that by placing God first all needs will be met

**Matthew 6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God<sup>[a]</sup> and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

--Jesus communicated the rewards of giving

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

## II. Why give?

A. Because it's the right thing to do

B. Because it's a matter of faith

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

<sup>22</sup> 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."

<sup>23</sup> After he heard this, he became extremely sad, because he was very rich.

C. Because we get blessed!

**Matthew 6:** <sup>20</sup> But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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

## III. How much do we give?

**I DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH YOU SHOULD GIVE. Only you and God knows!**

**I Corinthians 16:1** Now about the collection for the saints: Do the same as I instructed the Galatian churches. <sup>2</sup> 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.

### **Regularly**

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

### **Thoughtfully**

### **Generously**

II Cor 9:<sup>6</sup>The point is this:<sup>10</sup> 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**

### **Joyfully**

II Cor 9:<sup>7</sup> God loves a cheerful giver.