

The image features a central photograph of a hand holding a small, light-colored card with the word "give" written in a cursive script. The hand is positioned over a dark, textured wooden floor. The top and bottom of the image are framed by a blue background with a white geometric line pattern.

GIVING Movement

give

GIVING MOVEMENT

BIBLE STUDY LESSONS
FOR C.O.R.E. GROUP
DISCIPLESHIP



EVERY NATION
ABU DHABI

Generosity in Lack

- Share an unforgettable experience when something you would consider a miracle happened to meet a great need.
- What are some things you are willing to sacrifice for the benefit of others?

LET'S READ

¹ We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ² for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³ For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴ begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵ and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

⁶ Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷ But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also. ⁸ I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-9 ESV

(See also Acts 4:32-37)

Paul wrote to the church in Corinth partly to encourage them to excel in the grace of giving. He emphasized the importance of generous giving and the blessings that accompany it. He used the example of the Macedonian churches who gave beyond their means despite their extreme poverty.

How should we see generosity in times of lack?

1. Generosity is a grace from God.

We want to tell you further, brethren, about the grace (the favor and spiritual blessing) of God which has been evident in the churches of Macedonia [arousing in them the desire to give alms];

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1 AMPC

The grace of God highlights His divine favor and blessings, allowing the Macedonian churches to support those in need. By doing so, they fulfilled Jesus' command to help the least and gained His commendation (see Matthew 25:40). This grace empowered them to give generously, even amid their severe trial.

2. Generosity is voluntary and genuine.

³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:3,4

The Macedonian churches were inspired to contribute to the needs of the church in Jerusalem. Their decision to give was entirely voluntary. The members of the Macedonian churches were so moved by Paul's teachings on generosity that they earnestly begged to take part in contributing their share to help fellow believers in need.

*What adjustments
would you make
to prioritize
others' needs
before your own?*

3. Generosity is a commitment to God and a compassionate act towards others.

⁴ ... begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵ and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:4,5

It is evident that the Macedonian churches had faith in God's provision, and their generosity beyond their means reflected their love for Christ and other people.

*How do you think
God could use you
in prioritizing
others' needs
above your own?*

LET'S PRAY

- Ask God for an opportunity to help someone in need this week.
- Pray for God's overflowing provision to flow through you in order to bless others in need.

LET'S APPLY

- *How can you encourage fellow believers to give generously to support the Lord's work?*
- *Is there someone in need that you would like to bless with your resources? How can you show your generosity to this person this week?*

Generosity in Abundance

- What would you do if you inherited a large amount of money?
- How would you respond if asked to donate some of that money to a charity or foundation?

¹ So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the Lord has commanded.”² Then Moses summoned Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work.³ They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning.⁴ So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing⁵ and said to Moses, “The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done.”⁶ Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: “No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.” And so the people were restrained from bringing more,⁷ because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

EXODUS 36:1-7 NIV

(See also 1 Chronicles 29:9, 14, 17-18)

In the previous chapter (Exodus 35), we see a beautiful example of the Israelites giving willingly and generously to the construction of the Tabernacle. They responded eagerly, giving so much that Moses had to ask them to stop because the building project had received so more than enough for the resources required.

LET'S LEARN

Since everything
we have comes
from God—our
skills, time,
finances, and
more—how
would you
acknowledge this
truth and give
back to Him from
what He has
already given
you?

Why should we be even more generous during times of abundance?

1. Because everything we have came from God.

¹ So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the Lord has commanded.” ² Then Moses summoned Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the Lord had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work.

EXODUS 36:1,2

Moses summoned every skilled worker to begin building the Lord's Tabernacle. The workers received from Moses all the contributions the Israelites had brought for the construction of the sanctuary in response to the Lord's command to provide the necessary materials.

2. Because we want to obey what God has called us to do.

They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning.

EXODUS 36:3

The people responded generously to Moses' request for help after God had commanded them to provide materials for the construction of the Tabernacle. They continued to bring far more than was needed.

*How can you
obey God
generously with
the provisions
you have
received from
Him?*

3. Because we want to participate in the bigger work of God.

³ They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. ⁴ So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing ⁵ and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done."

EXODUS 36:3-5

The generosity of the people was overwhelming, and the materials they gave were more than enough for the work of constructing the Tabernacle. Their large contributions showed their wholehearted willingness to give for the work of God.

*What motivates
you to give
generously
towards the
Lord's work?*

LET'S PRAY

- Ask God to help you take an active part generously in the ministry of the church.
- Pray for the Lord to use you as His generous instrument to bless someone among or outside your family.

LET'S APPLY

- *Our church sends short-term mission teams to other nations annually. How can you take part in this initiative?*
- *This week, look for opportunities to be a blessing to our church community or a member who is needy.*



EVERY NATION
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