

Grace of Giving

2 Corinthians 8:1-5



Come let us worship and bow down!

Why is Giving so Hard?

“The basic question is not how much of our money we should give to God, but how much of God’s money we should keep for ourselves.”

(J. Oswald Sanders)

Personal Conclusions:

- It is too personal.
 - *“It is our money given to us because of our work.”*
- It means a personal sacrifice.
 - *You have to give what is yours.*

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How is Giving Worship?

“Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.”

(Luke 21:1,2, ESV)

The History of Giving

- Cain and Abel (*Genesis 4:3-5*)
- Tithing (*10% percent*)
 - A tenth of produce. (*Leviticus 27:30*)
 - A tenth of cattle. (*Leviticus 27:32*)
- A tenth was a just return. (*Genesis 28:22*)



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The Early Church Gave

“We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia.”

(2 Corinthians 8:1, ESV)

The churches of Macedonia had grace:

- They gave themselves to God first. *(2 Corinthians 8:5)*
- Then came Paul and others. *(2 Corinthians 8:5)*
- They gave according to their means. *(2 Corinthians 8:3)*
- They gave beyond their ability. *(2 Corinthians 8:3)*



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How to Become a Cheerful Giver

“Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

(1 Corinthians 11:28, ESV)

Stir up your motivation:

- Realize your blessings. *(Acts 4:32-36)*
- Plan your giving. *(2 Corinthians 8:1-5)*
 - See how much you can give.
 - See how much you can give if you sacrifice.
- Do not rob God. *(Malachi 3:6-12)*
- Give.

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