# Stewardship & Giving

Giving from a willing heart touches the innermost being of God for He is our greatest example of a Giver when He gave His Son. Let us follow in His footsteps as we are able.

### Stewardship - a Gift to Invest

Everything we have ultimately belongs to God (Ps 24:1) but is given to us to **re-invest wisely for a good return for the kingdom** - an eternal reaping of profits. We have been entrusted with more than material wealth: skills, time, ministry, talents, and the Gospel.

Stewardship: Read Matthew 25:14-30 (The parable about stewardship)

#### Giving for a Purpose

Regarding the giving of money, we should care for parents, grandparents, needy widows (1 Tim 5:3-4), those who labour in the ministry of the Gospel (1Cor 9:9-11), the poor – especially needy believers (Gal 6:10) – and sometimes strangers who can turn nowhere else.

Read the whole portion from 2 Corinthians 8:1 to 9:15 over carefully.

#### **Method of Giving**

The Law prescribed tithing in the time of promise, **but in this time of grace** (now that the law is made complete) we should give freely not out of fear or under constraint, but out of a <u>thankful heart</u>, through love as worship to God, the Giver of all things. This should be <u>regularly</u> and <u>proportionally</u>. *1 Cor 16:2* 

On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

## Benefits of a giving Lifestyle

When you give, thanks will be given to God (2 Cor 9:12-14) and you will be carried in prayer. Your gift will be multiplied (John 6:9) and credited to your heavenly account by God. Lay-up treasure in heaven (Mat 6:20) by being willing to share (1 Tim 6:18-19).

 $\Rightarrow$ 

Resolve to give:	Prayerfully	Thoughtfully
Generously	Voluntary	Joyfully

Let us be challenged to give cheerfully, faithfully, consistently, and – above all – sacrificially (2 Corinthians. 9:6-7).

# "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"

**Discussion of wealth** Read: Matthew 6:21 **Reinvest** = to lay out what you received for profit.

Return = earn a yield (profit or interest)

Entrusted = given a duty or responsibility Wealth = monetary or productive value

Gospel: Eternal value Giving = For national Israel this was prescribed by tithes: Heb 7:5; Num 18; Deut 26:12

Ministry = serving to spread the gospel Promise: Abraham and Moses lived in a time when Jesus was only a promise

Law made complete:
Read: Gal 3:19-25 and
Matthew 5:17, 20, 48
Proportionally =
a certain part in respect
of the whole amount
(as decided beforehand
in your heart)

**Account** = a written report or books, see also Revelation 20:12

The widow of Mark 12:44, gave a little - but she gave her all. (Jesus considered this to be the most)

**Memorize:** "Test Me in this, says the Lord Almighty, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing for you such a blessing that you will not have room enough for it." (Malachi 3:10)

**Pray:** Thank You Lord, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

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