

Lesson 6

NEW TESTAMENT GIVING

1. Giving is the HEART of the Christian faith. John 3:16 and 2 Corinthians 9:15.
2. If giving is the heart of the Christian faith, it is LOVE that motivates the heart.
Romans 5:8
3. As an expression of the love we have for God, giving becomes an act of the HEART and the WILL. 1 John 4:19

** Discussion question: Does giving necessarily mean the giving of money? What else does God expect us to give?

4. The highest motive for giving is LOVE. 1 John 4:9-10

** Discussion question: Does a person have to be a believer to get joy from giving? What are some illustrations you can share of those who give?

5. In Christian giving, we express THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST.

** Discussion question: What does it mean for Christ to be Lord?

** Discussion question: What are some honest reasons that we as Christians give to the church?

1. FEAR
2. DUTY
3. NEED

6. Before we give our time, treasures, and talents to the Lord we must first GIVE OURSELVES. 2 Corinthians 8:5
7. All that I am and all that I have BELONGS to God because HE HAS GIVEN IT TO ME!
8. When we give our offerings to God we express THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST in our lives. The more we give, the more we affirm that He is the LORD OF OUR LIVES.
Romans 12:1&2, 6-8.
9. With New Testament giving we SUPPORT the WORK OF GOD in the world.
2 Corinthians 8:13-15

** Discussion question: Is money immoral, moral, or amoral?

10. Money has no moral or spiritual value; it is how we use the money that makes it GOOD OR EVIL.

** Discussion question: How has financial support for the church been an asset to you and your family?

11. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 we learn that God loves a CHEERFUL GIVER.

12. In 2 Corinthians 8:14 we read: “At the present time your plenty will supply WHAT THEY NEED, so that in turn their plenty will supply WHAT YOU NEED.”

** Discussion question: What does 2 Corinthians 9:12 mean?

13. In New Testament giving, we give with PURPOSE and FAITH.

14. Here in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9 Paul is talking about an offering for the saints at JERUSALEM and the responsibility for the saints at CORINTH to have a part in the gift. See 2 Corinthians 8:1-7.

15. A person learns to GIVE by GIVING.

16. Seven aspects of giving are to:

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| a. Give <u>WILLINGLY</u> | 2 Cor. 8:3 |
| b. Give <u>GENEROUSLY</u> | 2 Cor. 8:3 |
| c. Give <u>SACRIFICIALLY</u> | 2 Cor. 8:3 |
| d. Give <u>CHEERFULLY</u> | 2 Cor. 9:7 |
| e. Give <u>FAITHFULLY</u> | 2 Cor. 9:8 |
| f. Give <u>SYSTEMATICALLY</u> | 1 Cor. 16:1&2 |
| g. Give <u>EXPECTANTLY</u> | Luke 6:38 |

17. God never wants or expects giving to be DIFFICULT but rather He wants it to be an act of LOVE and APPRECIATION as well as an ACT OF WORSHIP.

18. In New Testament giving we discover THE BLESSINGS OF GOD in our lives.
Luke 6:38

** Discussion question: What does it mean when someone says, “You can’t outgive God.”

19. The dynamics of God’s economy must be EXPERIENCED to be PROVEN.