

## **THE PLAN OF GIVING**

### **1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-2**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. The subject of stewardship is a common theme in the Bible.
2. Many of God's people are poor stewards because:
  - A. Never been taught. "I don't know what the Bible says."
  - B. Mixed messages. "I've heard this, but I've also heard this."
  - C. Financial bondage. "I'm too far in the hole."
  - D. Small income. "I can't afford to tithe."
  - E. Disobedience. "I earned it, it's mine." "I don't care what the Bible says."
3. How a believer handles finances indicates the level of love and maturity he has in his Christian walk.
4. Mt. 6:21, "For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also."
5. **1 Corinthians 16:1-2**

#### **I. WHEN SHOULD I GIVE?**

**A. V.2, "On the first day of the week."**

B. The "first day of the week" is Sunday, the Lord's Day.

C. Sunday is the day of corporate worship.

1. John 20:19
2. Acts 20:6-7
3. Col. 2:16
4. Rom. 14:6

D. Giving should be done on Sunday as an act of worship.

## II. WHO SHOULD GIVE?

A. V.2, "Each of you."

B. Every believer is expected to give as an act of worship.

C. Many examples in Scripture:

1. The Macedonians - 2 Cor. 8:1-5

2. The widow - Mark 12:41-44

3. God Himself - 2 Cor. 8:9, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; although He was rich, for your sake He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich."

4. John 3:16

## III. WHERE SHOULD I GIVE?

A. Old Testament - In the Tabernacle and later in the Temple there was a storehouse at the place of worship for things to be deposited.

1. 2 Chron. 31:11-12, "Hezekiah told them to prepare chambers in the Lord's temple, and they prepared them. The offering, the tenth, and the dedicated things were brought faithfully."

2. Neh. 10:38-39, "A priest of Aaronic descent must accompany the Levites when they collect the tenth, and the Levites must bring a tenth of this offering to the storerooms of the treasury in the house of our God. For the Israelites, and the Levites, are to bring the contributions of grain, new wine, and oil to the storerooms where the articles for the sanctuary are kept and where the priests, gatekeepers and singers serve. "We will not neglect the house of our God."

3. Malachi 3:10, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse."

B. New Testament counterpart was the early church.

1. Acts 4:34-35
2. Acts 5:1-6
3. 1 Cor. 16:2, “save” “Thesaurus” systematic plan

C. What about giving to charitable organizations?

1. Have I already given to my church?
2. Is he or she doctrinally sound?
3. Are the leaders godly?
4. How much do they use to raise more money?

#### IV. **WHAT SHOULD I GIVE?**

A. Patterns

1. **Taxation** - Gen. 41:34, 47:24-26, Num. 18:21-24, Deut. 14:22-29, Mt. 17:24-27, 22:15-22, Rom. 13:6-7.

2. **Tithe**

A. Gen. 14:20, “. . . then Abraham gave him a tenth of everything.” Heb. 7:1-4 Before Mosaic Law.

B. Gen. 28:22, “and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God’s house, and all that you give me I will give you tenth.”

3. **Freewill**

A. **1 Chron. 29:14, “But who am I, and who are my**

people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?" Building the Temple

B. Acts 2:44-45, 4:32, 5:1-2.

C. 1 Cor. 16, "to the extent that he prospers." KJV - "as God has prospered him."

B. Principles: We should give

1. **Proportionately** - 1 Cor. 16:2

2. **Sacrificially** - 2 Cor. 8:2, "During a severe testing by affliction."

3. **Generously** - 2 Cor. 8:2, "into the wealth of their generosity."

2 Cor. 9:6, "the person who sows generously will also reap generously."

4. **Prayerfully** - 2 Cor. 9:7, "each person should do as he has decided in his heart give."

5. **Cheerfully** - 2 Cor. 9:7, "for God loves a cheerful giver."

C. Promise

1. **2 Cor. 9:8-15**

2. **Luke 6:38, "Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure - pressed down, shaken together and running over - will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."**

3. **Luke 16:10-12**

A. God will honor and bless in proportion to what we give.

## V. **HOW DO I GET STARTED?**

### A. **TRANSFER** all ownership to God.

1. Ps. 24:1, "The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the Lord."

2. All we have and are belongs to Him.

A. 1 Cor. 6:19-20, "You are not your own; for you were bought at a price."

### B. **TRUST** yourself and all you have to God.

1. 2 Cor. 8:5, "And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us keeping with God's will." NIV

2. Mt. 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

3. If you will give Him your heart, then you can give Him all that is in your hand.

### C. **TRY** to give according to principles of Scripture:

1. Proportionately
2. Sacrificially
3. Generously
4. Prayerfully
5. Cheerfully

### D. **TAKE** God's promise of blessing

## CONCLUSION:

1. A stewardship problem is a spiritual problem.
2. God is more interested in our maturity than our money.
3. Are you willing to try and trust God starting today?