

# **Guidelines on Giving**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: II Corinthians 8-9.
- B. Most Christians do not know how to give properly.

## II. The grace of God to you is the only true motive for giving.

- A. A tax write off is simply not a good enough motive.
- B. God is very concerned about motives.
- C. The Corinthians gave despite their own persecution.
- D. The Corinthians gave beyond their means.
- E. One of the greatest marks of a heart touched by God is that one loves to give.

## III. The Christian attitude is one of stewardship of God's money.

- A. The Corinthians understood that everything they had belonged to God.
- B. Having given themselves to God, they freely followed up with all they had.

## IV. Christ was the supreme example of giving.

- A. Jesus had everything in heaven before He came to earth.
- B. He gave everything for us. (Philippians 2)

## V. There are needs all around us.

## VI. What God expects of an awakened heart.

- A. Give what you can when the need exists.
- B. There is to be an equality of response in giving, not amount.
  - 1. God gives to some more than they need in order that they might give more to those in need.
  - 2. This is to teach people the joy of giving.
  - 3. The tables can easily be turned as well.

**Application questions:**

1. How would you characterize the Corinthians sense of giving?

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2. What needs are there in your community that you are capable of fulfilling?

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3. Has God ever given you abundance such as a Christmas bonus? What was your first thought concerning that abundance? What thought does the message suggest the Christian ought to have?

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