

Basic Disciplines for Believers: #4 – Generous Giving

How Do I Give?

#1: **Bible Saturation** (Joshua 1:8) – #2: **Continual Prayer** (Colossians 4:2) – #3: **Willful Submission** (Romans 13:1-2)

Generous Giving: I am responding to God's giving by giving myself and my resources for His use.

2 Cor 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

1 John 3:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

Prov 3:9-10 ⁹Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; ¹⁰So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Acts 20:35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

How Do I Give?

1. **Worshipfully**

Deut 14:22-23 ²²"You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year. ²³And you shall eat before the Lord your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. ("It's not a money issue. It's a heart issue.")

Deut 15:21 But if there is a defect in it, *if it is lame or blind or has any serious defect*, you shall not sacrifice it to the Lord your God. (Deut 17:1)

Psalms 76:11 Make vows to the Lord your God, and pay *them*; Let all who are around Him bring presents to Him who ought to be feared.

Prov 3:9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;

2 Cor 8:1-5 ¹Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: ²that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. ³For I bear witness that according to *their ability*, yes, and beyond *their ability*, *they were* freely willing, ⁴imploping us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. ⁵And not *only* as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and *then* to us by the will of God.

2. **Sacrificially**

2 Sam 24:24 Then the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy *it* from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

Mark 12:43-44 ⁴³So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; ⁴⁴for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."

2 Corinthians 8:1-2 Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: ²that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.

3. **Voluntarily**

2 Cor 9:7 *So let* each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. (It is not a choice not to give, but you are not forced to give.)

2 Cor 8:3 For I bear witness that according to *their ability*, yes, and beyond *their ability*, *they were* freely willing,

4. **Proportionally**

Prov 3:9-10 ⁹Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; ¹⁰So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Mark 12:42-44 ⁴²Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. ⁴³So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; ⁴⁴for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."

Luke 12:48 But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required: and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

1 Cor 16:1-2 ¹Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: ²On 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.

5. **Generously**

2 Cor 9:7 *So let* each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Cor 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.