

Home Groups Together Spiritual MOT Session 3 - Giving

Look at the following verses. What does our attitude to money and giving reveal?

“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” Matthew 6:21

“No-one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.” Matthew 6:24

“I am not commanding you (to give), but I want to test the sincerity of your love” 2 Corinthians 8:8

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.”

1 Timothy 6:17-18

Our attitude to money and our giving is very revealing.

2 Corinthians 8:1-15 & 9:6-7

The Origin of Christian Giving: 2 Corinthians 8:9

- How was Jesus rich?
- How did he become poor?
- Why did he freely move from poverty to riches?

The grace of God that creates Christian generosity. All Christian giving begins with the realisation that God is a self-giving, a self-sacrificing God.

What attitudes to giving are highlighted?

1. Give....

“In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.” 2 Corinthians 8:2

2. Give....

“For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability.” 2 Corinthians 8:3

3. Give....

“For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have” 2 Corinthians 8:12

“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion....” 2 Corinthians 9:7

4. Give....

“...for God loves a cheerful giver!” 2 Corinthians 9:7

5. Give....

“Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously” 2 Corinthians 9:6

6. Give....

“Now about the collection for God’s people...On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.” 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

“Father, I know you love me and want what’s best for me. I recognise that all I have, or ever will have, comes from you. I am more interested in pleasing you than in having possessions. I want you to have the first place in my life, and I am willing to begin giving generously as you have commanded. Out of gratitude for all you’ve done for me, and in expectation that you will continue to provide for me, I commit myself to returning the first part of all I earn to you, I want to begin investing for eternity. Please help me to remain faithful to this commitment. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”