
Giving That Pleases God (Selected Scriptures)

Financial giving is one of the excellent indicators of our spiritual growth and maturity in the Lord. Giving is a matter of stewardship. How we earn money, spend money, save money and give money indicate how well we are managing God's entrusted money (Luke 16:11).

God has ordained two concepts of giving in the whole Bible; required giving (known as the tithe which belongs to God - Lev. 27:30-32) and freewill giving which comes from the believer's willing heart (Num. 18:12; Prov. 3:9-10). Consider 8 principles that should govern our giving:

1. ***Giving should be*** _____
Paul says in 1 Cor. 16:2, "On the first day of the week..." Giving should not be done on a regular basis because it would help us to be more consistently focused on God.

2. ***Giving should be*** _____
Paul continues, "On the .. let each one of you..." Paul emphasizes that giving is the individual responsibility of Christians who has anything to give (i.e. Zacchaeus - Luke 19:1-10).

3. ***Giving should be*** _____
Paul says, "On the.. let each ..lay something aside..." Giving should be deliberate and systematic (2 Cor. 9:7).

4. ***Giving should be*** _____
Paul says, "On the ...storing up as *he may prosper*," The term "as he may prosper" indicates that our giving should be proportionate to God's financial blessings (Luke 16:10).

5. ***Giving should be*** _____
God looks beyond the amount that we give, He considers our attitude (faith) and what it takes to give it (sacrifice). In Mark 12:41-44, the poor widow gave everything she had. She gave sacrificially and that pleased God (Heb. 13:16; Phil. 4:18; 2 Cor. 8:1-4).

6. ***Giving should be*** _____
Paul says of the Macedonians (2 Cor. 8:2) "that in their deep poverty, they abounded in the riches of their liberality (2 Cor. 9:5-7). Cheerful giving means hilarious giving. Like worship, in general, giving is only acceptable when it is done out of a heart of gratefulness and joy because of God's goodness upon us (Romans 12:1-2).

7. ***Giving is*** _____
Giving is investing with God and He is promising a return for your investment (Luke 6:38). When we invest with God, we will surely receive eternal dividends (Matt. 6:19-21).

8. ***Giving is*** _____
In Phil. 4:10 and 19, Paul says to the Philippians (Phil. 4:10,19) that, "as a result of your great care for me, my God shall supply your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Giving generously will result to the blessings of God (2 Cor. 9:6, 8-10).
