

Giving / Church of the Open Bible / 02.21.16

Luke 16.10-13

You need to decide whether you will use your money for _____ purposes or your own.

God wants you to be his _____ over the resources he entrusts to you.

How faithful you are as God's steward over the _____ he has given you indicates to God how faithful you would be as his steward over greater blessings.

God might entrust more to you if you are _____ as God's steward to use his provision for his purposes.

1 Timothy 6.17-19

Trusting God's provision means trusting that whatever set of blessings he _____ to give you is for the best, not just that he will provide what you need.

If you are faithful as God's steward over the blessings he gives you, you will experience _____ life!

God wants you to use the blessings he gives you to be generous, _____ with others, and to do good deeds in ministry.

Mark 12.41-44 & John 13.34

Generosity is _____ to what you have, not measured by absolute amount. The more sacrificial your giving is, the more generous it is.

Your giving should be _____ and _____, so that you are showing love for others through the church as Christ has shown love for you.

2 Corinthians 8.1-15 NET

Despite experiencing a severe ordeal of suffering in extreme _____ themselves, the Macedonian churches gave generously to help the church in Jerusalem.

Our giving should be _____, out of our own _____ to help and do good.

Like the Corinthians and Macedonians, we send money _____, supporting the gospel mission in places where the church cannot survive without help, where they need resources more than we do.

God does not expect us to go without what is _____. The idea is that those of us with more than we need today help those who have needs today; in the future they might be helping us.

2 Corinthians 9.6-15

The more you sow or invest into _____, the more fruitfulness you will reap in that area.

Our goal should be to make an eternal difference here, helping people go from being _____ and despairing to being mature and multiplying disciples of Christ.

You need to commit your time, effort, money and other blessings to pursuing _____ outreach among non-believers, edification ministries for believers, and exaltation in our worship, if you want to be a faithful and trustworthy steward who makes that eternal difference.

God is able and willing to bless you _____ *so you can give more*. With any resource, if you are a good steward, God might decide to invest more in you so you can invest more in the ministry.

We are not to give under compulsion. Instead, God wants us to be _____ givers.

All we have is a gift from God. If God asks us to _____ some of what he has given us, so that he can use it to minister to us, to our fellow believers in the church, to our fellow believers around the world, and to those who still need to hear the gospel, we certainly should not complain. We should give cheerfully to a church focused on evangelism, edification, and the exaltation of God!

God does _____ need your money to accomplish his goals. Rather he gives you the privilege of being his steward, his image bearer, his minister to a fallen world.

Your giving meets the financial needs of others and of the _____; encourages others in faith, resulting in praise and thankfulness toward God; helps promote the gospel mission; bonds you with others in the church, resulting in greater prayer support and fellowship. An earlier passage in 2 Corinthians says that your giving also encourages others to give.

Acts 20.35

Jesus said, "It is more _____ to give than to receive."

The church could do more ministry with more money, but our goal is not to _____ you into giving more; rather our goal is to help you walk with God, experiencing his many blessings!

There is no set amount or percentage for your giving in the New Testament teaching about the New Covenant era in which we find ourselves. So please follow these four steps:

1. Understand God's revelation in the Bible.
2. Pray earnestly about this issue.
3. Discern how the Holy Spirit is guiding you.
4. Give accordingly.