

## Money Myths and Principles:

### New Testament Tips

*Now regarding your question about the money being collected for God's people in Jerusalem.*

*You should follow the same procedure I gave to the churches in Galatia. <sup>2</sup> On the first day of each week, you should each put aside a portion of the money you have earned. Don't wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once. <sup>3</sup> When I come, I will write letters of recommendation for the messengers you choose to deliver your gift to Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> And if it seems appropriate for me to go along, they can travel with me.*

*1 Corinthians 16:1-4 (NLT)*

*Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. <sup>2</sup> They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor.*

*But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.*

*<sup>3</sup> For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. <sup>4</sup> They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. <sup>5</sup> They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.*

*2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NLT)*

*So we have urged Titus, who encouraged your giving in the first place, to return to you and encourage you to finish this ministry of giving. <sup>7</sup> Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us<sup>[c]</sup>—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.*

*<sup>8</sup> I am not commanding you to do this. But I am testing how genuine your love is by comparing it with the eagerness of the other churches.*

*2 Corinthians 8:6-8 (NLT)*

*You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.*

*<sup>10</sup> Here is my advice: It would be good for you to finish what you started a year ago. Last year you were the first who wanted to give, and you were the first to begin doing it. <sup>11</sup> Now you should finish what you started. Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. Give in proportion to what you have. <sup>12</sup> Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have. <sup>13</sup> Of course, I don't mean your giving should make life easy for others and hard for yourselves. I only mean that there should be some equality. <sup>14</sup> Right now you have plenty and can help those who are in need. Later, they will have plenty and can share with you when you need it. In this way, things will be equal.*

*2 Corinthians 8:9-14 (NLT)*

PAUL'S EXAMPLE TO THEM IS THAT:

! GIVING SHOULD BE \_\_\_\_\_.

*Honor the Lord with your wealth,  
with the firstfruits of all your crops;*

*<sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled to overflowing,  
and your vats will brim over with new wine.  
Proverbs 3:9-10 (NLT)*

! GIVING SHOULD BE A \_\_\_\_\_.

*So I thought I should send these brothers ahead of me to make sure the gift you promised is ready. But I want it to be a willing gift, not one given grudgingly.  
2 Corinthians 9:5(NLT)*

*You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.  
2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)*

! GIVING SHOULD BE \_\_\_\_\_.

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*And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had.<sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.<sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—<sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.  
Acts 2:44-47 (NLT)*

*Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.<sup>7</sup> You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."<sup>[c]</sup><sup>8</sup> And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.  
2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NLT)*