

THE GHANA POLICE CHURCH, ACCRA

SERMON

SUNDAY, 28 JULY 2024

THEME

❖ **CHRIST-CENTERED
GIVING**

SCOPE

- **INTRODUCTION**
- **WHAT IS CHRIST-CENTERED GIVING?**
- **GENEROSITY OF GOD**
- **OUR RESPONSE**
- **HOW TO GIVE**
- **ANY BENEFITS**
- **CONCLUSION**

- **SCRIPTURE REF**

- **Ps. 50:23; Ps. 50:5; Prov. 11:25**
- **2 Corinth 8 & 9**
- **1 Chr. 29:3-9**
- **Mark 12:41-44; Gal 6:9**

INTRODUCTION

- God delights in **Thanks Offering**
- Those who sacrifice thank offerings **honor Me, says God. (Ps. 50:23a)**
- We are here this morning to say **Thank You God, not only with our lips but with our possessions**
(our lives, money, wealth, etc)

WHAT IS CHRIST-CENTERED GIVING?

- An act of giving which is motivated by the love of God. (*willingly, sacrificially, wholeheartedly*)
- Giving by Faith to please God
- Giving through Obedience to the Will of God (*God calls us His saints, faithful, consecrated, followers, godly people because of our Sacrifices to Him.*)

GENEROSITY OF GOD

- God is Generous (*Omnibenevolent ie unlimited goodness, perfectly good*)
- His Grace, His Mercies, His Love, Forgiveness, Healing, Deliverance, Salvation, etc.

OUR RESPONSE?

(2 Corth 8:9)

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- 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.
 - **Jesus Christ is Our Pattern in Giving**
 - **We give because He gave Himself first for us**

HOW TO GIVE

- Submit first, your heart to God
- Generously
- Willingly not grudgingly. God loves a cheerful giver
- Sacrificially
- Wholeheartedly

ANY BENEFITS?

- Kingdom Expansion; Others are blessed and God is honored
- Covenant with God. God will make you influential & honorable (Ps.112:9c)
- Proper planning towards old age; Setting Priorities Right
- Unlimited blessings (*spiritually and materially*)

CONCLUSION

- God is the Possessor of heaven and earth.
- We are only Stewards of our lives, monies, cars, homes, businesses, etc
- We cannot give God enough. He owns all.
- Giving is a Ministry....*the objective is to please God*

CONCLUSION

- God rewards our generosity. God does not forget our acts of kindness.
- So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

- **GOD BLESS YOU
ALL**

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

- Ps 50:23 NIV
- Those who sacrifice thank offerings honor me, and to the blameless I will show my salvation
- Ps 50:5
“Gather to me this consecrated, (**faithful, saints, godly**) people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”
- **NLT** “Bring my faithful people to me— those who made a covenant with me by giving sacrifices.”

1 Chro 29:3-9

- And now, because of my devotion to the Temple of my God, I am giving all of my own private treasures of gold and silver to help in the construction. This is in addition to the building materials I have already collected for his holy Temple. I am donating more than 112 tons of gold^[a] from Ophir and 262 tons of refined silver^[b] to be used for overlaying the walls of the buildings ⁵ and for the other gold and silver work to be done by the craftsmen. Now then, who will follow my example and give offerings to the LORD today?”
- Then the family leaders, the leaders of the tribes of Israel, the generals and captains of the army,^[c] and the king’s administrative officers all gave willingly. For the construction of the Temple of God, they gave about 188 tons of gold,^[d] 10,000 gold coins,^[e] 375 tons of silver,^[f] 675 tons of bronze,^[g] and 3,750 tons of iron.^[h] They also contributed numerous precious stones, which were deposited in the treasury of the house of the LORD under the care of Jehiel, a descendant of Gershon. The people rejoiced over the offerings, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD, and King David was filled with joy.

2 Cornth 8:1-9

- **A Call to Generous Giving**

- 1Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters,a what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. 2They 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.
- 3For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. 4They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem.b 5They 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.
- 6So 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. 7Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from usc—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.
- 8I 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.
- 9You 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.

Proverbs 11:25

- The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed

2 Cornth 9:1-9

- **The Collection for Christians in Jerusalem**

- 1I really don't need to write to you about this ministry of giving for the believers in Jerusalem.^a 2For I know how eager you are to help, and I have been boasting to the churches in Macedonia that you in Greece^b were ready to send an offering a year ago. In fact, it was your enthusiasm that stirred up many of the Macedonian believers to begin giving.
- 3But I am sending these brothers to be sure you really are ready, as I have been telling them, and that your money is all collected. I don't want to be wrong in my boasting about you. 4We would be embarrassed—not to mention your own embarrassment—if some Macedonian believers came with me and found that you weren't ready after all I had told them! 5So 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.
- 6Remember 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. 7You 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."^c 8And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. 9As the Scriptures say,
- "They share freely and give generously to the poor.
- Their good deeds will be remembered forever."^d

Mark 12:41-44

- **The Widow's Offering**
- ⁴¹ Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. ⁴² Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins.^[a]
- ⁴³ Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. ⁴⁴ For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.”