

SESSION 3

PURSUIING  
*FINANCIAL*  
*FREEDOM*

GIVING & SAVING

### SESSION 3

# PURSUING FINANCIAL FREEDOM

## GIVING AND SAVING

### GIVING:

In God's economy, the \_\_\_\_\_ thing to do with your material wealth is

to \_\_\_\_\_ away. PROVERBS 3:9-10;

EXODUS 34:26; 1 CORINTHIANS 16:2; EPHESIANS 4:28; 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-11; 8:7

### Emphases

- PROVERBS 3:9-10; EXODUS 34:26 | first fruits
- 1 CORINTHIANS 16:2 | first day of the week, set aside..
- EPHESIANS 4:28 | give generously to others (Poor!!)
- 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6ff | sow generously/get generously
- 2 CORINTHIANS 8:7 | intentionality + focus = excellence  
"But since you excel in everything... see that you also excel in this grace of giving." (8:7a,c)

Our generosity is an expression of the \_\_\_\_\_ of our God! LUKE 6:38

### Making Choices/Trends

- ↓ **Consumption:** *what we buy.* ECCLESIASTES 5:11
- ↓ **Investing:** *what we save and multiply.* PROVERBS 6:6-8; 30:25 MSG  
↑
- ↑ **Kingdom:** *getting eternal treasure.* MATTHEW 19:29

God's generosity is intended to raise our standard of \_\_\_\_\_ ,

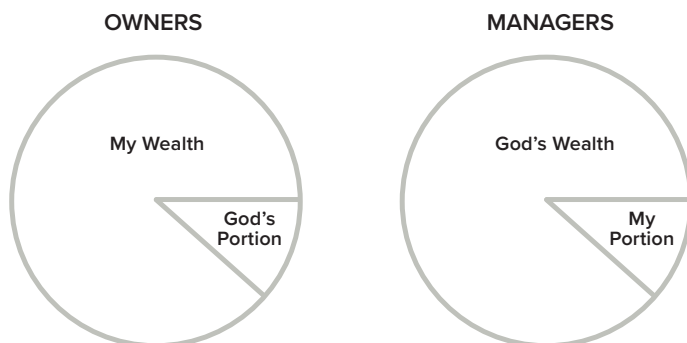
not our standard of \_\_\_\_\_ ! 2 CORINTHIANS 9:10

## FINISH LINES

- Spending
- Accumulation

We ask, "How much will we give to God?"

We might (better) ask, "How much does God want me/us to keep?"



- God's generosity is meant to be \_\_\_\_\_ with others in need.

JAMES 2:15-17

- This is the principle of the \_\_\_\_\_ helping the \_\_\_\_\_ . 2 CORINTHIANS 8:13-14

- When God doesn't say \_\_\_\_\_ . JAMES 4:3

### Giving how much?

The tithe—a \_\_\_\_\_ for giving, not the \_\_\_\_\_ !

- The tithe is \_\_\_\_\_ % of one's income.
- The Goal: Giving what is \_\_\_\_\_ to God from your circumstances—ability, life stage, desire. See *Plastic Donuts*, Anderson.

HEBREWS 11:4—Abel... acceptable sacrifice... he still speaks! (Levitical offerings/our lives—ROMANS 12:1 and our offerings—1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19)

## ACCEPTABLE GIVING

### The Amount Matters

- It \_\_\_\_\_ in a meaningful way.
  - David: “I will not offer my God gifts that cost me nothing.” 2 SAMUEL 24:22-25
  - The engagement ring
- It is often a \_\_\_\_\_ transaction.
  - EFT, bank draft, reminder on phone, etc.
- It has impact on my \_\_\_\_\_ plan.

### We Determine the \_\_\_\_\_ .

- We have a \_\_\_\_\_ to give.
  - There are 2000 verses on giving in the Bible

LUKE 6:38

**“Give, and it will be given to you.** A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

- We have the freedom to choose a \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - 2% rule of giving
  - Of eight kinds of gifts in the Old Testament, four were decided by the giver.

### We Give According to Our \_\_\_\_\_

2 CORINTHIANS 8:12b

The gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

- \_\_\_\_\_ ability—income from all sources
- \_\_\_\_\_ ability—savings, investments, inheritances
- \_\_\_\_\_ ability—family, spiritual legacy, job, health, etc.

### The \_\_\_\_\_ Makes the Gift Count

MATTHEW 5:23-24

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

From *Plastic Donuts*, Jeff Anderson, Multnomah Press, 2017.

### Giving to where and what?

- Giving by \_\_\_\_\_. ACTS 1:8
  - Jerusalem—our city/local ministry  
1 TIMOTHY 5:17-18; 1 CORINTHIANS 9:13-14; GALATIANS 6:6
  - Your local church— \_\_\_\_\_  
– \_\_\_\_\_
  - Judea—our \_\_\_\_\_
  - Samaria—our \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ends of the earth— \_\_\_\_\_
- Giving by \_\_\_\_\_ MATTHEW 28:19-20  
Evangelism, discipleship, church planting, leadership training,  
Bible translation, community development, compassion.

### Discounts to our Giving

- Giving for \_\_\_\_\_ widow's mite.  
LUKE 21:1-3
- \_\_\_\_\_ —giving to meet expenses. 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7
- Grudgingly not \_\_\_\_\_. 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7
- Without \_\_\_\_\_. 1 CORINTHIANS 13:3
- With broken \_\_\_\_\_. MATTHEW 5:23-24
- With \_\_\_\_\_. ACTS 5:1-2

### Final words...

- Give \_\_\_\_\_!  
Be open to God's direction. (Charity Navigator, Guidestar, ROI Ministries Top Ten, Ministry Watch, BlessBig.org)
- Always include giving to the \_\_\_\_\_!  
(God always includes it in His talks about giving!)



#### WARNING

Only give to organizations displaying the \_\_\_\_\_ symbol  
Evangelical Council for Financial  
Accountability

(unless you personally know of their  
ministry and leadership).

## ROI Ministries

Rating ministry for the top mission agencies and their impact for Kingdom work—  
updated regularly.

*Invest your money in lives changed, souls saved, disciples made, and  
people fed. Our Top 10 Ministries have proven themselves, both qualitatively  
and quantitatively, that they are some of the most effective ministries in the  
world. —ROI Ministries*



MEDICAL AMBASSADORS  
INTERNATIONAL



GLOBAL MEDIA OUTREACH



DOULOS PARTNERS



JESUS FILM HARVEST  
PARTNERS



FAITH COMES BY HEARING



JESUS FILM PROJECT



THE MAILBOX CLUB



NEVERTHIRST



HEART FOR AFRICA



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## SAVING: A BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE

PROVERBS 21:20

### Short-term saving (3-5 years):

- \_\_\_\_\_ fund/ \_\_\_\_\_ buying reserve
- Minimum need: \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Better to have \_\_\_\_\_ month's living expenses.
- Many people are \_\_\_\_\_ in debt because they have \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ !

### Long-term saving (over 5 years):

- For major purchases/retirement/long-term health care—  
a \_\_\_\_\_ to your family when you start  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ an income.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:14

### Money Mindset in U.S. population

Spender	Saver	Servant
Majority	Minority	Unusual
Present	Future	Eternal
Consumption	Hoarding	Treasure