

“The Corn Seed Principle”

Living a Generous Life Series

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

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New Testament principles relating to money:

Every believer should...

Give financially. (2 Corinthians 8:2-3; Acts 11:29)

Give worshipfully. (2 Corinthians 8:8, 24)

Give regularly. (1 Corinthians 16:2)

Give proportionately. (2 Corinthians 8:11-12)

Give locally. (Galatians 6:6)

Give generously. (2 Corinthians 8:2-5; 9:6)

Give joyfully. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

“In the passage where the New Testament says that everyone must work, it gives as a reason ‘in order that he may have something to give to those in need.’ Charity—giving to the poor—is an essential part of Christian morality... I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charities expenditure excludes them... For many of us the great obstacle to charity lies not in our luxurious living or desire for more money—but in our fear—fear of insecurity. This must often be recognized as a temptation. Sometimes our pride also hinders our charity; we are tempted to spend more than we ought on the showy forms of generosity (tipping, hospitality) and less than we ought on those who really need our help.”

C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, Harper Collins Publishers, New York, NY, 1952, p. 86-87.

“You should give according to your income, lest God makes your income according to your giving.”

Brian Kluth, *Forty Day Spiritual Journey to a More Generous Life*, Colorado Springs, CO, www.GenerousLife.org, p. 40.

“God looks at the heart, not the hand; the giver, not the gift.”

Brian Kluth, *Forty Day Spiritual Journey to a More Generous Life*, Colorado Springs, CO, www.GenerousLife.org, p. 41.