

Legacy Part 2: Principled Giving

(Psalm 112:5-6 NIV) "Good will come to those who are **generous** and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. Surely the righteous will **never be shaken**; they will be **remembered forever**."

(2 Samuel 24:18-25 NLT) "That day Gad came to David and said to him, "Go up and build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." **So David went up to do what the Lord had commanded him.** When Araunah saw the king and his men coming toward him, he came and bowed before the king with his face to the ground. "Why have you come, my lord the king?" Araunah asked. David replied, "I have come to buy your threshing floor and to build an altar to the Lord there, so that he will stop the plague." "Take it, my lord the king, and use it as you wish," Araunah said to David. "Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and you can use the threshing boards and ox yokes for wood to build a fire on the altar. I will give it all to you, Your Majesty, and may the Lord your God accept your sacrifice." But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have **cost me nothing**." So David paid him fifty pieces of silver for the threshing floor and the oxen. David built an altar there to the Lord and sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings. And **the Lord answered his prayer** for the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped."

(Matthew 10:8 NIV) Jesus said, "Freely you have received; **freely give**."

1. Emotional Giving

(2 Corinthians 9:7 MSG) "I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against **sob stories** and **arm-twisting**."

2. Principled Giving

(2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV) "Each of you should give what you have **decided in your heart to give**, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

✓ First fruits tithing.

(Deuteronomy 14:23 LB) "The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God in **first place** in your life."

✓ Offerings.

(2 Corinthians 9:1b-2 NLT) "I know how **eager you are to help**, and I have been boasting to the churches in Macedonia that you in Greece 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**.”

✓ Sowing & reaping.

(2 Corinthians 9:6, 10 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**... For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then **produce a great harvest** of generosity in you.”

3. Gift of Giving

(Romans 12:6-8 NLT) “In his grace, **God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well**. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. **If it is giving, give generously**. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.”

What should we do?

✓ Become a principled giver.

(2 Corinthians 8:7 NLT) “Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us—I want you to **excel** also in this gracious act of **giving**.”

✓ Partner with the church to impact the world.

(Hebrews 13:16 NIV) “And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for **with such sacrifices God is pleased**.”

✓ Trust God to provide more than we need.

(Malachi 3:10 MSG) “Bring your full tithe to the **Temple** treasury so there will be ample provisions in my **Temple**. Test me in this and see if I don’t open up heaven itself to you and pour out **blessings beyond your wildest dreams**.”