



Finance 101

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¹ Now, brothers *and sisters*, we make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia, ² that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality. ³ For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, *they gave* voluntarily, ⁴ begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints, ⁵ and *this*, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God. ⁶ So we urged Titus that as he had previously made a beginning, so he would also complete in you this gracious work as well.

⁷ But just as you excel in everything, in faith, speaking, knowledge, and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you also excel in this gracious work. ⁸ I am not saying *this* as a command, but as proving, through the earnestness of others, the sincerity of your love as well. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

2 CORINTHIANS 8 [NASB]

#1. **LIBERAL GIVING IS COURAGEOUS**

² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability.

2 CORINTHIANS 8

¹⁸I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4

⁴³Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.'

MARK 12

#2.

LIBERAL GIVING IS CHRISTLIKE

¹And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches.

⁶So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part.

⁷But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

2 CORINTHIANS 8

⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 CORINTHIANS 8

⁵And they exceeded our expectations: they gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

2 CORINTHIANS 8

#3. LIBERAL GIVING IS CONTAGIOUS

³Entirely on their own, ⁴they [the Macedonians] urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.

2 CORINTHIANS 8

²For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action.

2 CORINTHIANS 9

⁵'Now, who is willing to consecrate themselves to the Lord today?'

⁶Then the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king's work gave willingly.....⁹The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

1 CHRONICLES 29

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the relationship between generous giving and trusting in God? How can you ensure that the way you give continues to help you to demonstrate and build faith?**
- 2. As people grow in Christ, they are empowered to give beyond their natural abilities and inclinations. Share about your spiritual journey in growing in the grace of giving since you started as a believer.**
- 3. How have you been encouraged by the liberal giving of other believers? Now encourage your fellow CG members by sharing about how you hope to contribute to the Give to the King offering this year.**