

GIVING: BEYOND THE CHECKBOOK

Romans 12:1-8

God wants more than your money!

I. GIVE YOURSELF - Romans 12:1

A. THE REASON

- Because of God's compassion

B. THE RESPONSIBILITY

1. Present your body to God
2. Put yourself at God's disposal
3. Example: Isaiah in Isaiah 6:8

C. THE REGULATION

1. Sacrificially: Holding nothing back
2. Pleasingly: In accordance with what God approves
3. Worshipfully: This is spiritual worship

II. GIVE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS - Romans 12:6-8

A. THE REALITY: We have various gifts

B. THE RESPONSIBILITY: Use your gift!

C. THE RECORD: Some of the gifts include ...

1. Prophecy: The proclamation of the Word
2. Serving: Assisting others, "deaconing"
3. Teaching: Providing instruction
4. Counseling (encouragement and exhortation): Coming alongside someone
5. Giving: Contributing to the needs of others
6. Leading: One who organizes, directs or administrates
7. Assisting (being merciful): Bringing help to the afflicted

III. CONSIDER OTHER OFFERINGS

A. CHILDREN: Hannah offered Samuel
- See I Samuel 1:21-28, 2:11 & 18-21

B. TIME: The Good Samaritan took time for the afflicted
- Note Luke 10:30-37

C. PROPERTY

1. Joseph of Arimethea gave his tomb to Jesus - See Matt. 27:57-60 and Mark 15:42-46
2. Barnabus sold land and gave the proceeds to the apostles - Acts 4:36-37

D. TALENT: Dorcas used her sewing skills for widows
- Acts 9:36-39

E. HOSPITALITY: Lydia offered her home to the church!

1. Lydia - Acts 16:14-15, 40
2. See also Philemon's wife - Philemon 1-2

F. ENERGY: Epaphroditus wore himself out to assist Paul
- Phil. 2:29-30

G. PRAYER: Epaphras devoted himself to prayer for his people
- Col. 4:12

H. ENCOURAGEMENT: Onesiphorus oft refreshed Paul
- See II Tim. 1:16-18

CONCLUSION:

Never think that once you drop your offering in the plate, you have fulfilled your obligation to God.

God wants more than your money.

Are you giving to God all that He requires?