

2020 Vision
Giving Your Money to What Matters Most, Part 2
2 Corinthians 9:1-15
Grace Fellowship Church, Pastor Brad Bigney, Feb. 2, 2020

“As thunder follows lightning, giving follows grace.”

-*The Treasure Principle*, Randy Alcorn, p. 31

I. Your Giving Will Never Be Extravagant Until Your Heart Stops Being Resistant

2 Corinthians 9:7 “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart...”

Heart and money go together. Whatever you have a heart for, you will find money for.

The accumulation of stuff has only made life more complicated and stressful.

We have more stuff than 95% of the world, and yet our level of happiness is one of the lowest in the world.

“Another benefit of giving is freedom. It’s a matter of basic physics. The greater the mass, the greater the hold that mass exerts. The more things we own – the greater their total mass – the more they grip us, setting us in orbit around them. Finally, like a black hole, they suck us in.”

-*The Treasure Principle*, Randy Alcorn, p. 33

II. Willing to Give Is Not the Same as Being Prepared to Give

[See 2 Cor 8:6, 8:11, 9:3, 9:4, 9:5]

The Greek word he uses for “ready” is a word that means to get prepared—to make progress or to be in a condition that is ready for action.

You can’t give what you don’t have. But often you don’t have it because of the way you spend it.

How would you prepare or get ready to give?

A. Stop Guessing What You’re Giving – Get the Facts

What people intend to do and think they’ve done is often very different than what they actually did!

B. Stop Trying to Fix It On Your Own – Get Help!

Sign up on graceky.org for the free, five-week “Life. Money. Legacy” class that begins March 9.

C. Don’t Just Hope to Give – Lock It In

Set up your giving to be regular and automatic online so that you don’t have to remember to give.

Give first and then trust God to help you take care of everything else – instead of taking care of everything else first and then giving God what’s left.

D. Don’t Just Set It and Forget It – Plan to Grow

Find yourself on the chart on the back of the bulletin and then ask God to help you make plans to move to the next level this year.

III. You’ll Rarely See God Provide Abundantly Until You Start Giving Sacrificially

God is looking to pour out extra money on people who don’t keep it all for themselves.

A. God Promises that He Will Meet Your Needs as You Start Meeting the Needs of Others

2 Corinthians 9:8 “And God is able to make all grace about to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things, at all times, you may abound in every good work.”

B. God Promises to Keep Funding Your Giving

2 Corinthians 9:10-12 “¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹² For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.”

You can’t give because you don’t give—but if you would give, you’d find out you could give.

2 Corinthians 9:15 “Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.”

Financial principles alone will never make you a sacrificial “Grace Giver.” Paul brings it back to the Person and work of Jesus – and what He did for us on the cross.

When you look to Christ and never get over what He's done for you, it changes you and frees you to let go of the things of this world, like money.

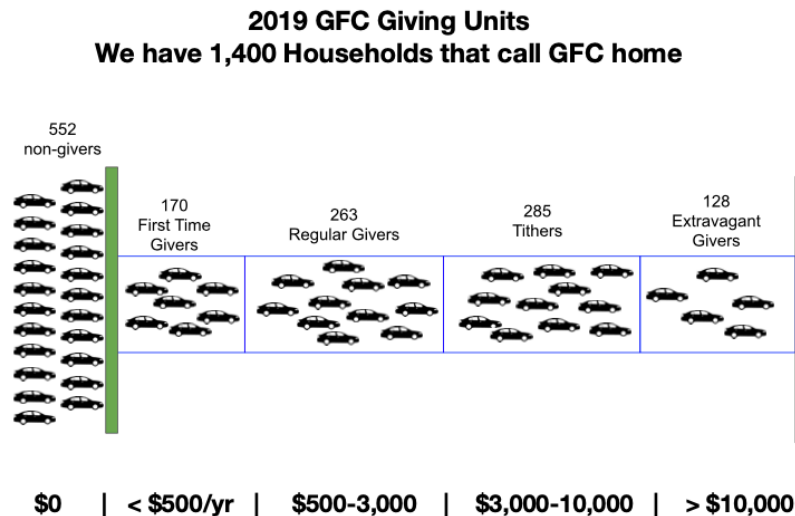
"Gaze on Christ long enough, and you'll become more of a giver. Give long enough, and you'll become more like Christ."

-Randy Alcorn

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believe in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Next Steps for Growing in Your Grace of Giving

- Find yourself on the giving chart below and make plans to grow to the next level of giving this year.



40% of our households give nothing
10% of our households give < \$500/yr
50% of our households carry over 90% of the budget
30% of our households tithe (give at least 10% of their income)

- Sign up for the five-week "**Life. Money. Legacy.**" class that runs from **March 9 - April 6** on Monday evenings, meeting in the Florence Campus Chapel by Entrance C.
- Purchase and read ***The Treasure Principle*** by Randy Alcorn (copies are available in our Resource Center).
- Read **2 Corinthians 8 & 9** three times before next Sunday.
- Sign up to make your giving regular and automatic by going to: **graceky.org/give** or text **GRACEKY** or **GRACEMISSIONS** to **77977**.