

Giving That Feels Good
God's Plan for Your Finances – Part 1
Life Church St. Louis – February 4, 2018
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Acts 20:35b (ESV) "... remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

1. Giving Motivation #1: _____

Malachi 3:8-9 (ESV) Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV) Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Giving Motivation #2: _____

2 Corinthians 8:7 (NIV) But just as you excel in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us--see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

3. Giving Motivation #3: _____

2 Corinthians 8:13-14 (ESV) For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness.

4. Giving Motivation #4: _____

2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (ESV) 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. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

5. Giving Motivation #5: _____

2 Corinthians 8:5b (ESV) ... they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily quiet time of Bible reading & prayer.
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Sign up for the Financial Peace University (www.lcstl.org/fpu).

How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

Giving That Feels Good Study Guide

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Intro. Why do you think that many people in America have problems with their finances?

According to 2 Timothy 3:16-17, what would the purpose of the Bible's principles on finances be?

Why do you think that the topic of money is mentioned so often in the Bible (2350 verses)?

What did Jesus mean in his statement quoted in Acts 20:35b?

1A. What are the consequences of not giving according to God's direction (Malachi 3:8-9)?

1B. What is wrong with giving out of fear or guilt (2 Corinthians 9:7)?

1C. In what ways is the attitude of the heart important in giving?

2A. What does it mean to "excel in this grace of giving" (2 Corinthians 8:7)?

2B. How is giving a responsibility for believers?

2C. How can giving as only a responsibility limit God's plan?

3A. How does giving to God's church meet the needs of the church family (1 Corinthians 8:13-14)?

3B. How can giving to meet needs honor God and bring joy to the giver?

4A. According to 1 Corinthians 9:10-11, where do your finances (seed) come from? Why is that hard for some to acknowledge?

4B. When you give to God (sow seed), what should you believe God for (1 Corinthians 9:6, 10-11)?

4C. What does this passage (1 Corinthians 9:10-11) teach about the giving motive of thanksgiving?

5A. How can "extreme poverty well up in rich generosity" (2 Corinthians 8:2-3)?

5B. Why does giving yourself first to the Lord affect giving (2 Corinthians 8:5b)?

5C. How can giving to your church be an act of worship to God?

5D. How could you grow as a cheerful giver that God loves?