

How much should I give?



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# Giving is part of a disciple's life

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**Luke 6:38** "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

**Luke 12:33-34** "Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. 34 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**Acts 20:33-35** "I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. 34 "Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. 35 "I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

# How much should I give?

- Giving is part of a disciples life



# How much should I give?

- Giving is part of a disciples life
- Giving is a command, just like the Lord Supper



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# Giving is a command

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**Acts 20:7** Now on the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.

**Thayer's Lexicon:** Both verses have “eis sabbaton” translated first day of the week.

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# Giving is a command

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**1 Ephesians 4:28** Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with [his] hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

**1 Timothy 6:17-19** Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. 18 [Let them] do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

**Hebrews 13:16** But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.



# How much should I give?

- Giving is part of a disciples life
- Giving is a command, just like the Lord Supper
- Examples to Inspire us



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## Examples to inspire us (OT)

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**Genesis 14:20** And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

**Genesis 28:20-22** Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, 21 "so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God. 22 "And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."

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## Examples to inspire us (OT)

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**Exodus 35:4-5, 21, 29** And Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, "This [is] the thing which the LORD commanded, saying: 5 'Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever [is] of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the LORD: gold, silver, and bronze; ... 21 Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, [and] they brought the LORD's offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. ... 29 The children of Israel brought a freewill offering to the LORD, all the men and women whose hearts were willing to bring [material] for all kinds of work which the LORD, by the hand of Moses, had commanded to be done.

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## Examples to inspire us (OT)

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**Numbers 18:21-26** "Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the tabernacle of meeting. 22 "Hereafter the children of Israel shall not come near the tabernacle of meeting, lest they bear sin and die. 23 "But the Levites shall perform the work of the tabernacle of meeting, and they shall bear their iniquity; [it shall be] a statute forever, throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance. 24 "For the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer up [as] a heave offering to the LORD, I have given to the Levites as an inheritance; therefore I have said to them, 'Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.' " 25 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 26 "Speak thus to the Levites, and say to them: 'When you take from the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them as your inheritance, then you shall offer up a heave offering of it to the LORD, a tenth of the tithe.

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## Examples to inspire us (OT)

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**Deuteronomy 12:5-7** "But you shall seek the place where the LORD your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name for His dwelling place; and there you shall go. 6 "There you shall take your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, your vowed offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks. 7 "And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice in all to which you have put your hand, you and your households, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.

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## Examples to inspire us (OT)

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**Deuteronomy 14:28-29** "At the end of [every] third year you shall bring out the tithe of your produce of that year and store [it] up within your gates. 29 "And the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who [are] within your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.

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## Examples to inspire us (OT)

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- Exodus 23:10-11: 7th required to leave the fields for the poor
- Deuteronomy 23:24-25; Luke 6:1: satisfying hunger
- Leviticus 19:9-10; Deuteronomy 24:19-22: learning the corners of the field
- Deuteronomy 15:1-4: 7th year debt relief, also called the Lord's release
- Malachi 3:8-10: God's cursing for those that didn't follow the commands on giving

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## Examples to inspire us (NT)

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- **Luke 19:8** Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."
- **Luke 21:1-4** And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, 2 and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. 3 So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; 4 "for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."



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## Examples to inspire us (NT)

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- **Matthew 23:23** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier [matters] of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.
- **Acts 2:44-45** Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, 45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.
- **Acts 4:34-35** Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, 35 and laid [them] at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

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# Examples to inspire us (NT)

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- Acts 4:36-37: Barnabas sold his land
- Acts 11:27-30: The disciples in Antioch, each according to their ability, sent relief
- Romans 15:25-26; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5: Example of the churches in Macedonia and Achaia
- Philippians 1:3-5; 4:14-18: The brethren in Philippi helping Paul

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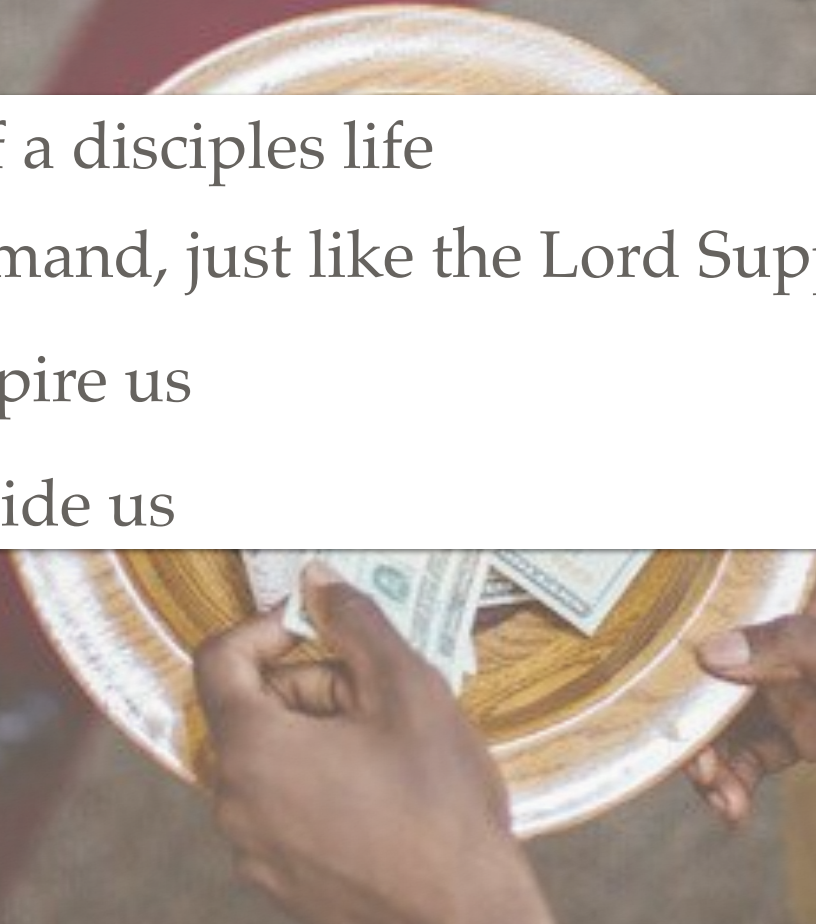
## Examples to inspire us (NT)

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- **John 3:16:** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
- **2 Corinthians 8:9:** For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

# How much should I give?

- Giving is part of a disciples life
- Giving is a command, just like the Lord Supper
- Examples to Inspire us
- Principles to Guide us



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# Principles to guide us

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Where our possessions come from

- **1 Chronicles 29:14:** But who am I, and who are my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You.

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# Principles to guide us

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## As we Prosper

- **1 Corinthians 16:1-2:** Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: 2 On the first [day] of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.
- **2 Corinthians 8:12-13:** For if there is first a willing mind, [it is] accepted according to what one has, [and] not according to what he does not have. 13 For [I do] not [mean] that others should be eased and you burdened;

Giving is keeping with the level of our prosperity

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# Principles to guide us

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## Seek to Excel

- **2 Corinthians 8:7:** But as you abound in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us--[see] that you abound in this grace also.
- **2 Corinthians 9:8-10:** And God [is] able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all [things], may have an abundance for every good work. 9 As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." 10 Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have [sown] and increase the fruits of your righteousness,
- **Matthew 5:20:** For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds [the righteousness] of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Do we look to excel or just to get by?

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# Principles to guide us

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## Do so Willingly

- **2 Corinthians 8:12:** For if there is first a willing mind, [it is] accepted according to what one has, [and] not according to what he does not have.
- **2 Corinthians 9:5,7:** Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which [you had] previously promised, that it may be ready as [a matter of] generosity and not as a grudging obligation. ... 7 [So let] each one [give] as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

We must give because we want to, not because we have to



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# Principles to guide us

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## Understanding our Abundance

- **2 Corinthians 8:13:** For [I do] not [mean] that others should be eased and you burdened;
- **2 Corinthians 8:14:** but by an equality, [that] now at this time your abundance [may supply] their lack, that their abundance also may [supply] your lack--that there may be equality.
- **2 Corinthians 8:15:** As it is written, "He who [gathered] much had nothing left over, and he who [gathered] little had no lack."

There is a focus on those that have an abundance to help those that lack

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# Principles to guide us

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## Sowing Bountifully

- **2 Corinthians 8:7:** But as you abound in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us--[see] that you abound in this grace also.
- **2 Corinthians 9:6:** But this [I say]: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- **2 Corinthians 9:8-10:** And God [is] able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all [things], may have an abundance for every good work. 9 As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." 10 Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have [sown] and increase the fruits of your righteousness,

Seek to give bountifully, that you might give even more

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# Principles to guide us

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## Give Purposely

- **2 Corinthians 9:7:** [So let] each one [give] as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Budget beforehand to give purposely and willingly

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# Principles to guide us

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## With Cheerfulness

- **2 Corinthians 9:7:** [So let] each one [give] as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

If we cannot give cheerfully, then our giving is not acceptable to God!

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# Principles to guide us

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In Summary:

- Where our possessions come from
- As we Prosper
- Seek to Excel
- Do so Willingly
- Understanding our Abundance
- Sowing Bountifully
- Give Purposely
- With Cheerfulness

# How much should I give?

- Giving is part of a disciples life
- Giving is a command, just like the Lord Supper
- Examples to Inspire us
- Principles to Guide us

