

# 7-Day Study of Giving in the Bible

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## Day 1: Giving by example, giving honor properly

*Read: 1 Chronicles 29:6-18*

1. Who should take the lead in giving?
2. How do the giving "leaders" encourage others to give and how are they in turn encouraged?
3. Why does the honor belong to God?
4. David prays that God will keep a spirit of generosity in the hearts of the people. How can we pray for our donors and for God's provision of our needs?

## Day 2: Administration and distribution of gifts

*Read: 2 Chronicles 31:3-15*

1. Here again, we see leaders giving first. Do you think one person's generosity spurs others to give?
2. Why is there so much focus on the administration of the gifts?
3. Hezekiah gave honor to God and blessings to the people. How do we keep that perspective?

## Day 3: God uses unlikely people

*Read: Ezra 1:5-8; Psalm 68:18; Psalm 68:29; Nehemiah 2:8*

1. Why would God use people outside His kingdom to fund His work?
2. How would you feel about accepting donations from someone whose lifestyle defies God? How about a company whose policies defy God? How about using government funds like Nehemiah did?
3. How can we turn these situations into opportunities to spread the Gospel?

## Day 4: Modern offerings

*Read: Acts 10:4; Philippians 4:18-19*

1. How are our gifts a "fragrant offering" to God?
2. What are the implied "rewards" of giving our "fragrant offering" to God?

3. How does the whole concept of a "fragrant offering" affect your attitude toward your own giving?
4. Seen in context, is Philippians 4: 19 a promise for all Christians or only those who are generous givers?

Day 5: One of the earliest direct mail pieces

*Read: 2 Corinthians 9: 1-15*

1. Even this early direct mail piece had a matching gift. How did the Corinthians' promise/pledge of funds spur others on to give?
2. What arguments does Paul make to encourage the Corinthians to follow through?
3. In verse 13, Paul talks about others seeing the "obedience" of the Corinthians accompanying their confession of faith. How does giving tie in with obedience?

Day 6: Wrong motives

*Read: 1 Timothy 6: 17-19; Hebrews 9: 9*

1. What are the wrong motives listed in these passages?
2. We need to encourage others not to put their hope in wealth. How can we, as a ministry, not put our hope in money?
3. What makes the difference in an acceptable and unacceptable sacrifice? Think of Cain and Abel – how does that relate to the fragrant offering talked about in the passages for Day 4?

Day 7: The gift of generosity and obedience

*Read: Romans 12: 6-8*

1. If giving is a gift, how does that fit in with the obedience that Paul talked about in 2 Corinthians 9? What is the difference between having the gift of generosity and being obedient to Biblical mandates regarding tithes and gifts?
2. Does our fundraising create opportunities for those with the gift of giving to exercise it?
3. Obviously, not everyone has the gift of giving. What opportunities do we make for these others to feel in touch with our ministry?