



LET'S GO DEEPER



Contributing to the Kingdom - August 4th - Pastor Ezra

MARK 12:41-42 (NLT)

The Widow's Offering

“And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. 43 And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box.”

ACTS 20: 24, 32-35 (AMPLIFIED)

24 But I do not consider my life as something of value or dear to me, so that I may [with joy] finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify faithfully of the good news of God’s [precious, undeserved] grace [which makes us free of the guilt of sin and grants us eternal life].

32 And now I commend you to God [placing you in His protective, loving care] and [I commend you] to the word of His grace [the counsel and promises of His unmerited favour]. His grace is able to build you up and to give you the [rightful] inheritance among all those who are sanctified [that is, among those who are set apart for God’s purpose—all believers]. 33 I had no desire for anyone’s silver or gold or [expensive] clothes. 34 You know personally that these hands ministered to my own needs [working in manual labour] and to [those of] the people who were with me. 35 In everything I showed you [by example] that by working hard in this way you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed [and brings greater joy] to give than to receive.’”

1. A life of service

There is no passage particularly to a church in a moment that was specifically consumers rather than contributors.

In ancient times, there was an unspoken understanding that WHEN you choose to follow Jesus you SIGNED UP FOR A LIFE OF SERVICE.

Mark 10:45

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the difference between being a contributor and a consumer in Jesus’ church?

2. What is the example that Jesus gave us?

3. What is Jesus calling us to do?



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someone who was a social outcast, overlooked, she understood what stewardship meant

Rather than us typically only giving to God from our abundance, we should give from our sacrifice.

We are called to steward our time.

- Our gifts.
- Our talents
- Our dreams

1 Peter 4:10-11

“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. 11 Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.”

3. The body is called to action

CHURCH is not an organization... but an organism. Alive. You, me, us.

When the body is moving, it is healthy. Rather, when the body is stagnant - deterioration starts to take place.

Ephesians 4:15-16

“Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. 16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love..”

AS EACH PART does its own special work - which was GOD GIVEN. It helps the other parts grow so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

7. How can we be good stewards?

8. Why is being an active part of the church so important?

9. How does Paul explain the interaction among the church?

10. What are we called to do instead of simply attending church?

11. How do we accomplish this?
