

II Corinthians 8-9: “Paul’s Philosophy of Giving”

14 Principles

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- 8:1-4 **Principle No. 1 – Outward Circumstances & Difficulties Do Not Inhibit Generosity In Giving**
- The Macedonian churches were not giving out of their abundance; rather, they were giving generously out of their poverty
 - They gave, not because they had to, but because they wanted to give
 - Their giving far exceeded their financial ability
 - They viewed this special offering as a privilege, not as an obligation
 - Giving is viewed as a Christian “grace”
 - “Joy” and “Generosity” are twins – they accompany one another
- 8:5 **Principle No. 2 – All Financial Giving Should Be Preceded By Self Giving**
- They gave themselves first to the Lord
- 8:6-7 **Principle No. 3 – Believers Should Seek To Excel In The Grace of Giving**
- 8:6, 10-11
9:5 **Principle No. 4 – Worthy Stewardship Goals Should Be Brought to Completion**
- Finish what you begin
 - In spiritual things, there is value in completing what you start
- 8:8-9, 24 **Principle No. 5 – Generous Giving Gives Evidence Of the Sincerity Of One’s Love**
- One’s motivation for giving should always be “love for the Savior and the Saints”
- 8:8-9 **Principle No. 6 - Connecting Link: Between “The Grace of God” & “The Grace of Giving”**
- The grace of God becomes the supreme motivation factor in true Christian stewardship
 - Our giving should be rooted in His giving
- 8:12 **Principle No. 7 – A Willingness To Give Is More Important Than The Amount Given**
- 8:13-15 **Principle No. 8 – In the Economy of God, The Sufficiency of Some Ministers To The Deficiency Of Others**
- 8:16-21 **Principle No. 9 – The Expenditure of God’s Money Should Be Done Judiciously**
- To “honor the Lord”
 - To do vital ministry
 - To avoid any type of criticism
- 9:1-2 **Principles No. 10 – Generous, Spiritual, Giving, Will Have A Positive Influence On Others’ Giving**
- 9:5-7 **Principle No. 11 – The Attitude In Which A Gift Is Given Is Of Utmost Importance To God – Cheerfully And Willing vs. Grudgingly**

9:8-11 **Principle No. 12 – Generosity Moves The Heart Of God To Supply More Seed**

- “All Things”
- “All Times”
- “All that you need”
- “All grace”

9:11-14 **Principle No. 13 – Generosity Will Result In Praise And Thanksgiving To God**

9:15 **Principle No. 14 – Generous Giving Is The Natural Response To God’s Indescribable Gift**