

SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

Knowing how you fit into the Body of Christ



16. GIVING – Romans 12:8

“The supernatural ability to give of your time, talent, and treasures unbegrudgingly and abundantly with the right heart attitude. Those with this gift have the ways and means to give over and above to those in need or to those in need of blessing. They may not necessarily be rich, but willing to give with no strings attached”

- a. Giving = to bestow, to impart, grant, or deliver both within and beyond your means – Lk. 3:11; Rom. 1:11; Eph. 4:28; 1 Thess. 2:8
- b. Giving should not be complicated but **SIMPLE**, not grudgingly but **WILLINGLY**; just like Christ – Jn. 3:16; 2 Cor. 11:3; 2 Cor. 9:6-7
- c. General guidelines for giving in any context in the church:
 - As you are **ABLE** – Deut. 16:17; Acts 11:29
 - Shared responsibility proportionally – 1 Cor. 16:1-3
 - The right heart – 2 Cor. 9:7

**Keep in mind the return in giving – Acts 20:33-35; Luke 6:38; Pr. 19:17*

- d. Biblical Examples
 - Those giving valuables in worship concerning Jesus Christ were called **WISE** men – Mt. 2:1-11
 - The little old widow – Mark 12:41-44
 - The churches of Macedonia – 2 Cor. 8:1-5
- e. A potential pitfall of this gift can be forgetting to meet the needs of your own **HOUSE** – Pr. 11:1; 1 Tim. 5:8
- f. There is also the temptation to base one’s spiritual status upon those riches or to be threatened with the riches of this world – 2 Cor. 9:7; Rev. 3:17
- g. There will be no riches at the end of this world except for those **IN** Christ. There are strong warnings and charges to those “rich” in this world – Job 1:21; 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Luke 18:25-27; Mark 4:19; 1 Tim. 6:17-18
 - ✓ We as Americans are very rich in this world compared to the rest of the world
- h. Our gifts/giving are a **DELIGHT** to the heart of God with blessings to follow for us. How much are we losing out on by not being givers to and for God?