

the believer's generosity

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WARM UP QUESTION: How do you feel when you're around generous people?

READ: 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

FOCUS: The believer's generosity should be planned, proportionate and plentiful.

OBSERVE:

- Paul calls the church of Corinth to plan on giving by setting aside a portion of their income for collection.
 - Paul suggests weekly giving on the first day of the week; the exact day and period of time doesn't matter rather it represents a form of consistent giving.
 - The giving is corporate and for every individual.
- The amount should be proportional to income.
 - Paul does not include a specific percentage but that each should pray and follow the Holy Spirit's leading to be a cheerful giver.
 - It is not the amount itself but the proportion and obedience to God's call that determines giving that is honorable to God.
- Plentiful and generous offerings are the result of planned and proportional giving.
 - Paul desired their giving to occur prior to his arrival so that they wouldn't have to reactively take a quick collection.
 - Planned giving shows how giving is valued which allows the kingdom of God to advance and people to be blessed.

TAKING ACTION:

- Pray and thank God for all the ways He has provided for you.
- Ask what He desires you to give regularly to the Church to reflect your gratitude and trust in Him for continued provision.

REFLECT:

- Which aspect of planned, proportionate and plentiful giving is the most challenging for you?
- Why do you think Paul omits a specific percentage to give?

PRAY:

Heavenly Father, You have the cattle on a thousand hills. Generosity is who You are as You did not withhold even Your own Son. Holy Spirit, lead us to give and live like Jesus, generous on every occasion, joyfully sharing all that You gave to us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.