

Biblical Principles concerning Stewardship

The subject of money is always a sensitive one. Finances are a very personal thing, for Christians and non-Christians alike. But for those who know of God's gracious care, the Scriptures offer some wise counsel that helps us avoid becoming too reliant on our possessions. Consider these examples.

We give willingly and cheerfully.

Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Cor 9:7)

We give first to God.

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce. (Prov 3:9)

We give regularly.

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper. (1 Cor 16:2)

We give proportionately.

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you. (Deut. 16:17) That phrase "according to the blessing" indicates that there is no set amount specified for each person; rather, it's a proportion of the blessings that each of us receives from God.

We give generously.

For they [the Christians in Macedonia] gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will. (2 Cor 8:3).