

moving from CHARITABLE to EXTRAVAGANT

There is a battle for control at my core. Jesus said I have to choose between God and money, declaring that money is the chief rival god. That's why God wants to be involved with how I handle all my money, not just what I give.

God loans me His resources while on this earth and gives me the opportunity to express my love and trust Him by managing those resources well and generously redistributing His gifts toward His mission of reaching everyone with the good news of Jesus.

What a privilege I have to partner with God by investing in His work in this world!

Read Romans 8:31-32 then answer the following questions.
Is it legitimate to compare God's gift of His Son for us to how we are to treat our giving of our material wealth?
What is your biggest challenge to being generous?
If there is anything I have I can't give away, I don't own it; it owns me.

What % of your monthly income goes to:

Giving/Charity	Transportation	
Saving	Medical/Health	
Housing	Insurance	
Utilities	Entertainment/Vacation_	
Food	 Debt	
 Clothing	Other	

In his letters to the Corinthians, Paul provides principles to guide our giving.

He says we should give...

- Regularly
- Proportionally
- Generously
- Joyfully

Pray through the passages on the next page. As you do, answer the question that follows each passage.

1 Corinthians 16:2 - On the first day of each week, you should each put aside a portion of the money you have earned. Don't wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once.

How regular is your giving? Underline one and explain.

Sporadic Intermittent Monthly Weekly

2 Corinthians 8:12 - Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have.

How proportional is your giving? Underline one and explain. Not at all Somewhat Very Over the top

2 Corinthians 9:6 - Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.

How generous is your giving? Underline one and explain.

Scrooge-like (0%) Miserly (5%) Tithe (10%) Extravagant

2 Corinthians 9:7 - You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

How joyful is your giving? Underline one and explain.

Clinched teeth Mona Lisa smile Eager Exuberant

1. Copy the passage "word for word" from your Bible. If there is anything I have I can't give away, I don't own it; it owns me.

Read Matthew 6:21 then complete the 3-part interactive Bible study.

2. Write the passage in "your own words" as if you're telling a friend about it.
3a. Write down what you will do/stop doing as an act of obedience to God's word. "I will"
3b. Share with a friend or family member (preferably someone who might not have a personal relationship with Jesus) how this specific passage is impacting you. Or, share what God is doing in your life in general. Write their name below.

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Continue your exploration...

Engage and obey Bible passages from the Charitable to Extravagant Reading Plan.

- □ Romans 8:31-32
- ☐ Matthew 6:19-24
- □ Luke 18:18-25
- □ 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
- ☐ Ecclesiastes 2:1-11
- ☐ Proverbs 6:6-11
- □ 1 Timothy 6:6-10
- ☐ Mark 12:41-44
- □ 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Read "The Treasure Principle" by Randy Alcorn.

