

The Example of Grace Giving

IV: The _____ of Their Example

What motivated the Macedonian churches to give? Verse 5 tells us it was the *will of God*. And the result of their heart for giving to God's plan for evangelizing the world was God's grace upon them. Notice ...

A. they first gave of _____

Giving to missions is not about money because God will fund His plan with or without our involvement. God doesn't seek our money but rather our heart to see souls saved and churches planted.

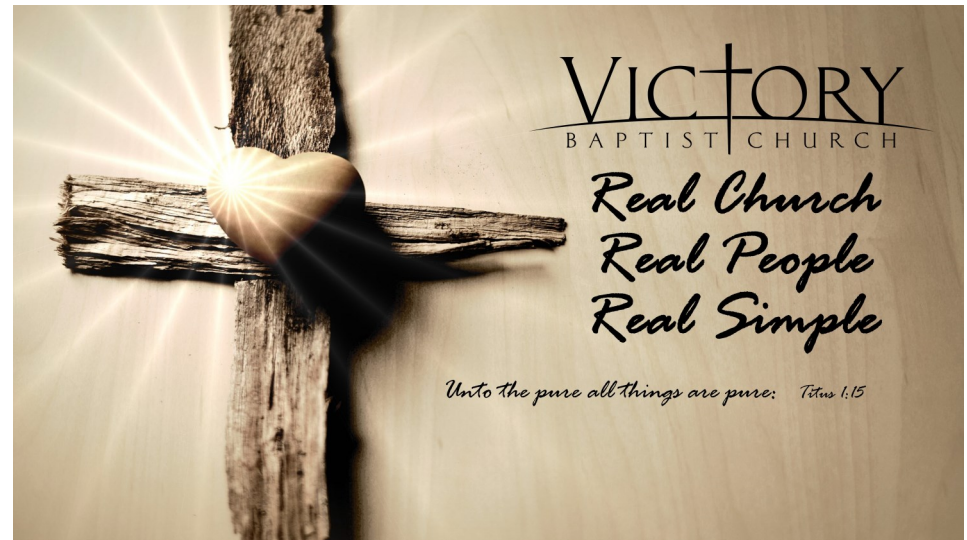
B. they gave according to the _____ of God

John 3:16 tells us that *God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son*. The will of God is that the world hears this message through the means, methods, and manpower of the local church.

This Biblical example is exactly how tens of thousands of fundamental, independent Baptist Churches have been started. People in other churches had a heart to give towards missions and God used it to scatter the seed of the Gospel around the world.

"For where your treasure is there will your heart be also" Matt. 6:21

Where does your treasure lie? Commit to being in the conference, being teachable and sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and to submitting to His level of involvement for you.



May 2, 2021

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2 Cor. 8:1-5

As we prepare for our missions conference, we begin by examining God's plan to evangelize the world.

Some may think that evangelizing the world just happens as people decide to share Christ with their neighbor and friends. But as we will see this morning, God indeed has a plan which involves all Believers and all of His churches around the world.

This morning we will look at the Biblical example of what is known as Grace Giving.

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I: The _____ of Their Example

There were two problems that plagued the Macedonian church's involvement in giving to missions (v2)

A. _____

The Macedonians were familiar with persecution yet they didn't allow it to stop them from participating in God's plan to evangelize the world

B. The _____

To put it bluntly, the Macedonians didn't have much of anything to give. It would have been easy to use this as an excuse not to participate.

Their involvement in giving to missions was precious because it came in spite their affliction and poverty. Their heart was the same as God's heart.

II: The _____ of Their Example

There are four ways to give. Obedience (the tithe), abundance, sacrifice, and by faith. Of these four, three apply to Faith Promise giving and two of the three are found in v3.

A. _____

They gave "to their power". In other words, they had the ability to give but their giving was limited.

B. _____ by _____

We are then told they gave "beyond their power".

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First they gave what they had but then they desired to give more and prayed and trusted that God would allow them to give more. Not every one can give out of abundance or even sacrificially but anyone and everyone can give by faith. In fact, giving by faith is the easiest yet most difficult way to give. Its easy because it costs the giver nothing but it is difficult because our reliance is 100% on God. God will never command or commission us to do something that He does not empower and provide us with the means to do it.

III: The _____ of Their Example

Their giving was for use outside of their own church body and was given to Paul and others in Jerusalem as support for their mission's work.

A. their giving was _____

It was given to help others and there was no expectation of ever receiving any money back.

B. their giving was for _____

Paul's sending church was the Church at Jerusalem and Paul's missionary work was supported by those in Philippi. Through their support Paul planted many churches including the Church at Thessalonica who then also supported Paul.

All money promised to our Faith Promise program is benevolent and used exclusively for missions ... both missionaries and church planting.
