
Series: The Attitude of a Giver (A study of 2 Corinthians 8)

Learning to Trust When We Give

2 Corinthians 8:16-24 (NIV)

I thank God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. ¹⁷ For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative. ¹⁸ And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. ¹⁹ What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. ²⁰ We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. ²¹ For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.

²² *In addition, we are sending with them our brother who has often proved to us in many ways that he is zealous, and now even more so because of his great confidence in you.*

²³ *As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ. ²⁴ Therefore show these men the proof of your love and the reason for our pride in you, so that the churches can see it.*

1. THE CHURCH HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CARE OF GOD'S MONEY.

v. 21 *"For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men."*

- The church needs sound financial procedures in place to create confidence in giving.
- The church needs checks and balances to safeguard its procedures.
- The church leaders need to oversee the procedures to make sure they are being carried out.

2. THE CHURCH NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO TRUST THOSE WHO HANDLE GOD'S MONEY.

vv. 18-19 *"And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering..."*

- People who handle money for the church need to be trusted individuals.
- The leaders must carefully place people who deal with the money of the church.
- The givers need to feel confident in those who take care of the money.

3. OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO GIVE, THEN TRUST THE LEADERS TO CARRY OUT THE WILL OF THE CHURCH.

v. 20 *"We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift."*

Luke 6:38 (NIV)

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

- Our job is to be faithful in our giving.
- We must continue to give even when we disagree with the decisions the church makes to spend what we give.
- The leadership must remain above reproach with regard to financial matters.