

SERMON MESSAGE FOR OCTOBER 27/28, 2018

Pastor Dennis Keating

WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE SING THE BLUES

Handling Our Money Problems!

2 Corinthians 8:1 – 9:15 (p. 989)

GOD'S PROMISE → Give _____ and His provision will be _____ . (Phil. 4:19)

SEVEN PRINCIPLES

1. The " _____ " principle. (2 Cor. 8:5; Ex. 25:2; Rom. 14:7-8)
2. The " _____ " principle. (2 Cor. 9:7; 1 Cor. 16:2)
3. The " _____ " principle. (Heb. 7:4)
4. The " _____ " principle. (2 Cor. 9:7; 2 Cor. 8:1-2, NIV)

THE POINT → You don't have to be _____ in order to give _____.
(Mark 12:44; 1 Cor. 16:2)

5. The " _____ " principle. (2 Cor. 9:7)

THE DIRECTIVE → If it _____ you to give, don't _____ !

6. The " _____ " principle. (2 Cor. 9:6)

THE KEY INSIGHT → We reap in _____ to the amount we sow.
(Luke 6:38)

7. The " _____ " principle. (1 Cor. 16:2)

THE CHALLENGE → The more we _____, the larger _____
we can give.

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FROM OCTOBER 27/28, 2018 SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-BASED LIFE GROUPS

Watch Pastor's Video Blog online at www.efcc.org/video-blog/
(see the link under the GROW tab, Sermons side).

Personal preparation: Read the passage, review your outline, and think through the questions. With your group, watch the video blog together.

CONNECTING

1. If you won the lottery, what would you do? How would it change you?

GROWING

2. Read 2 Corinthians 9:8 and then also Philippians 4:19. How have you seen these verses be true in your life? What are some of the ways you are aware of that God has kept His promise to you as you have been faithful to be a person who gives back to Him?
3. There were seven principles highlighted in the message. Pick two or three that are most significant for you and share why you chose them, and how you have seen those principles at work in your life.

SHARING

4. How can your group pray for you as you seek to apply this week's text?

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(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)

GOD'S PROMISE: Give **God's way** and His provision will be **abundant**. (Phil. 4:19)

"And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 4:19

SEVEN PRINCIPLES

1. The "**give your heart first**" principle. (2 Cor. 8:5; Ex. 25:2; Rom. 14:7-8)

"Tell the sons of Israel to raise a contribution for Me; from every man whose heart moves him, you shall raise My contribution." Exodus 25:2

"For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." Romans 14:7-8

2. The "**decide ahead of time**" principle. (2 Cor. 9:7; 1 Cor. 16:2)

"On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save;" 1 Corinthians 16:2

"Do your givin' while you're livin'; then you're knowin' where it's goin';" Chuck Swindoll

3. The "**off the top**" principle. (Heb. 7:4)

"Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils." Hebrews 7:4

4. The "**each one**" principle. (2 Cor. 9:7; 2 Cor. 8:1-2, NIV)

"And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity." 2 Corinthians 8:1-2

THE POINT: You don't have to be **rich** in order to give **richly**. (Mark 12:44; 1 Cor. 16:2)

"... she gave out of her poverty." Mark 12:44

"On the first day of every week, each one of you is to put aside and save ..." 1 Corinthians 16:2

5. The "**want to**" principle. (2 Cor. 9:7)

THE DIRECTIVE: If it **pains** you to give, don't **give!**

6. The "reap what you sow" principle. (2 Cor. 9:6)

THE KEY INSIGHT: We reap in proportion to the amount we sow. (Luke 6:38)

"Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure -- pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return." Luke 6:38

7. The "percentage of prosperity" principle. (1 Cor. 16:2)

"On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper." 1 Corinthians 16:2

THE CHALLENGE: The more we prosper, the larger percentage we can give.