

**BELIEVERS SHOULD
GIVE GRACIOUSLY**

2 CORINTHIANS 8

INTRODUCTION

- In this chapter, Paul starts a section on the theology of giving.
- As he invites the Corinthians to help relieve the poverty-stricken church in Jerusalem, Paul clearly wants the church in Corinth to understand what giving really means.
- We will then look at the book about the seven money types so you can understand how you and those around you handle money.

**TRUE BELIEVERS GIVE
GRACIOUSLY BECAUSE
GOD GIVES GRACIOUSLY**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-15

INTRODUCTION

- For the Corinthian church to become healthy again, it needs to follow through in its gift to Jerusalem.
- The Corinthians had begun a collection for the needy in Jerusalem, but it stopped due to Paul's problem with the Corinthians.
- Now that the relationship has been restored, Paul resumes the call to generously give to the church in Jerusalem (verse 11).

THEOLOGICAL CALL

- First, it was a theological call.
- Paul believes that salvation changes a believer's orientation to money.
- Through their giving, the Corinthians would demonstrate that they genuinely are Christians.
- Christ himself became poor so that we may become rich in the Lord. We must do the same for others.

DEMONSTRATION

- Second, the call was a demonstration of fellowship.
- By this one-time gift, the Corinthian church would express their support of the unity between believing Jews and Gentiles.
- The church in Jerusalem was made up mostly of converted Jews. The Corinthian church was made up of converted Gentiles.

GIVING

- To illustrate his thoughts on giving, Paul uses the Macedonian churches as an example. They were impoverished and also being afflicted for their faith on a daily basis (verse 2).
- While Paul was reluctant to take their gifts, it seems they were the ones doing the begging so they could be involved in the relief effort (verse 4).
- Giving was an honor that the Macedonian churches wouldn't be denied.

GIVING

- In light of what God was doing among the Macedonians, Paul believed that the Corinthians (who had benefited so greatly from God's grace, 1 Corinthians 1:4–7) should do no less (verses 6–7).
- And so Titus would be sent to administer the Corinthian's portion of the collection.
- This gave them the opportunity to excel in this act of grace.

GIVING

- Paul expresses in verses 13–15 that he did not intend for the Corinthians to become poor while the people of the church in Jerusalem became rich.
- Fairness calls for the abundance of the Corinthians today to supply for the need of the people in Jerusalem.
- One day the needs of the people in Jerusalem might provide for the needs of the Corinthians.

GIVING

- The Macedonian's ability to give so graciously came from God.
- God's grace at work in their lives prompted a unique perspective: "They gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us."
- They gave themselves completely to God and so viewed their lives (including their possessions) as belonging to Him.

GIVING

- The comparisons for the Corinthians did not stop with the Macedonians.
- In verse 9 Paul introduces the example of what Christ gave.
- This is a reference to the pre-incarnate Jesus, the humiliation he willingly endured through his incarnation (including death on a cross) all in order that the believer might become spiritually rich.

GIVING

- Paul gives his advice in verses 10–12 concerning the offering:
 - Finish what you started
 - Desire and wishing to complete a task are no substitute for action (James 2:15–16)
 - The size of the gift should correspond to an individual's means to give

**CHURCHES SHOULD
ENTRUST THEIR
FINANCIAL GIFTS TO
TRUSTWORTHY LEADERS**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:16-24

HONORABLE

- These verses are Paul's commendation for three brothers who would take up the offering from the Corinthians.
- Scholars say that Paul purposefully distances himself from the actual gathering where the Corinthians would give their money so that his enemies could not accuse him of coercing or putting pressure on the people of Corinth.

HONORABLE

- Instead of being there himself, he puts safety measures in place to make sure the offering is well taken care of and not a product of manipulation or force.
- The three brothers include the soul brother (special heart) , the famous brother (known to many), and the earnest brother (energetic and willing to help).

PROOF

- Twice in this section, Paul refers to the “glory of the Lord” or the “glory of Christ.”
- We see Paul’s ultimate goal: the collection to be a tangible expression of the new relationship between the Jews and the Gentiles.
- He concludes that they should “give proof before the churches of your love” toward the needy believers in Jerusalem (verse 24).

APPLICATION:

**SEVEN MONEY
TYPES**

"A fascinating concept!"

—GARY CHAPMAN, author of *The 5 Love Languages*

The
SEVEN
MONEY
TYPES



DISCOVER HOW GOD WIRED
YOU TO HANDLE MONEY

TOMMY BROWN

SEVEN MONEY TYPES

Type	God's Image	Shadow
Abraham	Hospitality	Self-Sufficiency
Isaac	Discipline	Fear
Jacob	Beauty	Indulgence
Joseph	Connection	Manipulation
Moses	Endurance	Impatience
Aaron	Humility	Instability
David	Leadership	Selfishness

ABRAHAM

- When Abraham had three visitors, he *ran* to meet them, *hastened* into the tent, called Sarah to act *quickly* (Genesis 18:3-10). He showed “hospitality.”
- Basic belief: money should be used to make others feel special and valued.
- Core characteristics: exceed expectations, put others first, believe giving is a gift, used resources to serve in often unnoticed ways, using food to show kindness.

ABRAHAM

- Shadow side: self-sufficiency
- Key phrase: “I’m fine. Don’t worry about me.”
- Characteristics: difficulty receiving generosity from others, slipping into a mindset of superiority.
- Action items: embrace hospitality, check your motives, ask others what they want, tell others what you want, establish a budget, spend on yourself.

ISAAC

- He was tempted to go to Egypt, but God directed Him to stay. He reaped a hundredfold from his crops and his wealth continued to grow (Genesis 26:12-14).
- Basic belief: money should be maximized.
- Core characteristics: disciplined toward destiny, see potential for recovery and restoration, persistence in the face of resistance, show restraint, love to win by getting the best deal.

ISAAC

- Shadow side: fear
- Characteristics: Tends to trust in their own efforts and work ethic, fail to enjoy resources.
- Action items: embrace discipline and maximize your money, lay financial fear aside and trust God's faithfulness, lighten up, check in others with your money.

SEVEN MONEY TYPES

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JACOB

- Jacob set up a stone after meeting God and called the place Bethel, and he worked to get beautiful Rachel.
- Basic belief: money should be use to pursue pleasurable experiences.
- Core beliefs: see beauty beneath the surface, their generosity meets restraint and converges with discipline, drawn to beautiful things and experiences, their emotions drive their purchases.

JACOB

- Shadow side: indulgence
- Characteristics: overspending to create appearances, living full-throttle but experiencing emptiness.
- Action items: embrace the desire to bring beauty to the world, accept that you will wrestle between hospitality and discipline, remain others-minded, embrace financial boundaries, keep attention off yourself.

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JOSEPH

- Joseph made connections to the jailer all the way to the Pharaoh and had the second highest office by the time he was 39 years old.
- Basic belief: money opens doors and makes connections.
- Core beliefs: view access to resources as a sacred trust, have the ability to create and streamline financial systems, believe helping others succeed is integral to personal success.

JOSEPH

- Shadow side: manipulation
- Characteristics: resources and connections as power, given to boasting
- Action items: embrace your desire to connect, tell the truth, carefully connect, trust but confirm your instincts, develop thick skin, guard your dreams and share them selectively.

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MOSES

- Moses had to endure the complaining of the people, he had to implement the commands and processes God provided so the people would endure.
- Basic belief: money should be carefully organized
- Core beliefs: love order, embrace financial rhythms, view systematic giving as a secret to financial well-being, often act as financial guides, don't worry much about money.

MOSES

- Shadow side: impatience
- Characteristics: can be extremely judgmental about how others handle money, care too much, work too hard.
- Action items: embrace your desire to bring order and endure, mind your own money, create rhythm of rest, embrace patience.

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Aaron	Humility	Instability

AARON

- More money flowed through Aaron's hands than any others, he was humble and considered what the people needed.
- Basic belief: money should be used to serve others
- Core beliefs: innocent toward money, have an awareness and concern for injustice, compelled to do something, prioritize meeting human need over accumulating wealth.

AARON

- Shadow side: instability
- Characteristics: too easily persuaded by what others want, may embrace adventures at the expenses of stability.
- Action items: embrace the inclinations to use money to serve others, discern perceived needs from actual needs, draw upon the strengths of Isaac and Moses types, become skeptical of your cynicism toward money.

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David	Leadership	Selfishness

DAVID

- When no one else would come forward to challenge Goliath, David stepped forward, confidence in God.
- Basic belief: money is a tool to create new futures
- Core beliefs: they inspire action, financial leaders, share the spoils, often underdogs, desire to leave a financial legacy for the next generation.

DAVID

- Shadow side: selfishness
- Characteristics: selfishly use people and resources, can become complacent.
- Action items: embrace your desire to create new futures with money, focus on legacy, keep your why clear and in focus, draw your boundaries and guard them carefully, determine now to guard against selfishness by being generous, remember that you are not what you earn.

TAKE THE QUIZ

- www.tommybrown.org/quiz/
- Select all that apply.
- Which best describe how you think, feel, or act?
- Submit when you've selected your top 1-2 options.

Select all that apply:
Which best describes how you think, feel, or act? Click **SUBMIT** when you've selected your top 1-2 options.

- I am very organized with money.
- While I'm not wasteful with money, I do things first class.
- I plan to set the next generation up to win financially.
- Perhaps more than others, I enjoy spending money on meals or activities to get to know new people.
- I'm always looking for new ways to make money.
- It drains my energy to make long-term financial plans.
- I regularly spend money to bless others and make them feel special.

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