

# Stirred Up To Give

*Exodus 35:5, 20-29 - Exodus 36:3-7*

## "Principles" or "Laws"

Sir Isaac Newton - There is a popular story that Newton was sitting under an apple tree, an apple fell on his head, and he suddenly thought of the Universal Law of Gravitation. As in all such legends, this is almost certainly not true in its details, but the story contains elements of what actually happened. What did he do? He discovered the law of gravity, among other things. He did not invent the law of gravity. It is not his law. It is principle observed in nature.

## "Principles" of Giving

*Principles or Divine principles can be found throughout the Bible. They are more than laws, they are truism for God himself to his creatures.*

2 Corinthians 8:12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man has, and not according to that he has not.

1 Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

6 But this I say, He which sows sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which sows bountifully shall reap also bountifully .7 make all your plans succeed.

1. **Willingly** - 2 Cor 8:12 a willing mind - Exodus 35-36 "whom the Lord stirred up to give"
2. **Corporately** - 1 Cor. 16:2 - on Sunday every one of you
3. **Reasonably** - 1 Cor 16:2, as God has prospered, 2 Cor 8:12 of what he has, not what has not
4. **Bountifully** - 2 Cor 9:6a, Romans 12:8a do it liberally
5. **Purposefully** - 2 Cor 9:6b as purposed in his heart, Malachi 3:10 test me in this covenantally
6. **Sacrificially** - Philippians 4:18-19 you only gave out of want, Mark 12:41 Widows mite
7. **Cheerfully** - 2 Cor 9:7b Lord loves cheerful giver

# Ideas & Suggestions

## *How To Give To God – Above and Beyond*

*Let each participant to keep in a visible place as a physical reminder of your faith and stirred up heart to give. "My Piece of the Promised Land."*

*It is a fact that all of us have only 8% of our value in cash. We have assets we don't even count that can be put to use for God's kingdom. Don't just count what is in your pockets, look at your long term assets and put them to use.*

Investments – CDs, stocks - looking at your lifetime of investments and savings and determining what is extra and not essential for your retirement. You are able to give it freely to the Lord without losing anything.

Penny Stocks - stocks that sell for less than \$2.00 each. Often are up-and-coming businesses that make great strides. Stocks increase in value, split and you gain.

Land held for years - many people inherit land or have purchased land that sits vacant or fairly useless for years. It is an asset that can be useful to liquidate and give to the Lord.

A Property sold - a second house (a fix-er-upper or investment property) that is sold and a portion of the profit is given to the Lord.

A Hobby - many people have hobbies that if used properly can bless them with added income that can be given over completely to the Lord. Ask God to bless a hobby given to Him. You will be surprised what God does with it. I once gave the Lord a computer disk and dedicated all proceeds to the Lord. God bless that \$1.00 disk an turned it into \$600 in one year! Another man gave his portrait painting hobby to the Lord so that everything he sold at a flea market when to the church building program. God blessed. Today he is retired because of the opportunities that dedicated hobby brought him.

A Livestock - I have known people who buy a piglet and give it to the Lord. They give it their garbage to eat and raise it for the Lord. When sold the profit from it belong to God.

A Crop - take an acre of grown, a garden, or a portion thereof and designate it to the Lord's use at the outset. Watch what God does to make his garden grow and yield fruit some 30%, 40%, and 60% or more.

A Settlement - You have been praying for the settlement of a lawsuit, an accident or injury settlement, or a workman's compensation settlement, or a long standing arbitration of an inheritance. Covenant with God to give him above and beyond the tithe - 20%, 50%, or even all of it if God should settle the account.

IRS Refund - so you got a refund from IRS, maybe this year it was surprisingly higher than ever expected. Why not give the Lord half or all of it for the sake of the Kingdom?

An Old Car - handy men and women have been known to take an old car and fix it up to sell for the benefit of widows or for a land or building fund. It is fun, enjoyable, and rewarding to see your efforts multiply for the kingdom.

Your Used Car - Another possibility is that old car when you go to buy a new one, instead of a trade in loss, sell it on your own and give the proceeds to the Lord.

A Yard Sale - one man's junk is another man's treasure. Everyone of us has garages and attics that are filled with useful but unused material, tools, furniture, and equipment that can be sold and given to God.

E-Bay - there is a wonderful Internet phenomenon of online auctions. People have made a fortune and found markets for unsellable products around the home by advertising on the Internet and allowing people to bid for it. We have some people in the church who regularly do this and would be glad to help you auction your assets on the Internet.

A Bonus - some employers give annual and semi-annual bonuses to their employees. If you happen to be so fortunate why not consider dedicating the next bonus in part or the whole to the work of the Kingdom?

Overtime Hours - I have known people who dedicate all their overtime hours to a special Kingdom project for the period of 1-6 months. Just watch how the Lord blesses you with overtime when it belongs to Him.

Part-time job - Some congregations with people who have some extra hours take on a one or two day a week part-time job for the sake of the kingdom. It gives them some spending money and part or all is given to the Building Program.

Write a Book - many of you are writers. You have a book you've been working on for years, but never brought it to publication. Why not dedicate it to the Lord and work this year on finishing it and submitting it for publication? I know a pastor of a very large church who has announced publicly that the royalties of his new book will go entirely into the building program to get them started. Your pastor has made that covenant with God as well. I have three books and booklets in the making. I have missed publishing it by a hair. I am asking God to get it published and the harvest goes back into His kingdom.

Write Magazine Articles - some of you write well and could submit articles to national magazines and get published. It is not a lot of money but test God in this; Make a covenant that all the proceeds will go back to Him and watch what God does with it.

Hands on Labor - during our building program there will be opportunity to save us a bundle on construction costs by donated labor of God's people. If you have no cash or assets but have time, why not commit six hours of volunteer labor to the Lord each week for 1 or 2 months? It is like giving cash.

*Everyone - young or old, male or female, has something to give  
No empty hands before the throne*

"Wave Offering or a Free-Will Offering"  
*Above and Beyond*