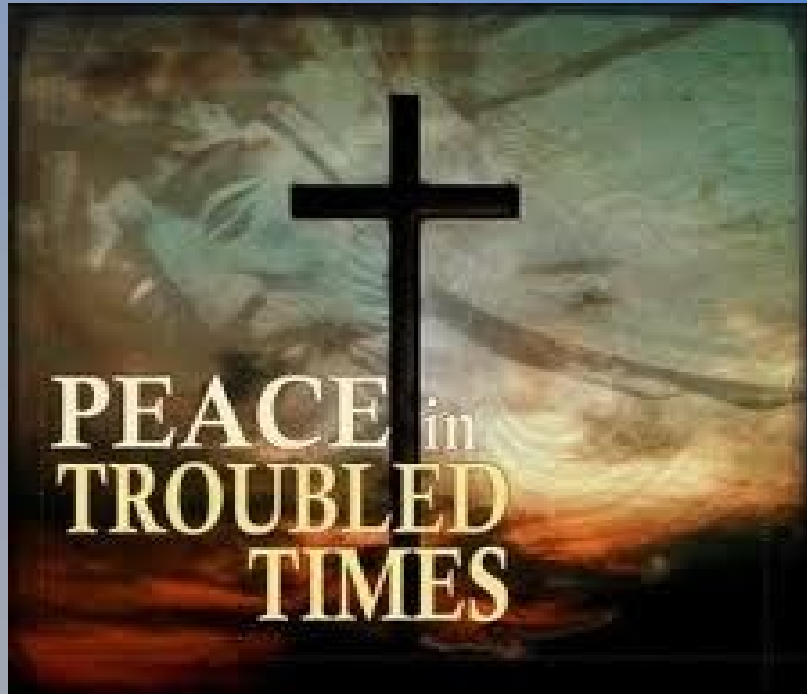


Good Morning and Welcome!
The New Testament Epistle of
II Corinthians!



Our Text This Morning:
II Corinthians 8:1-15!

The Title:
Practical Lessons in Giving!



Paul builds on I Corinthians 9:11,13-14!

Here the Justification for Giving is Provided!

If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we should reap material things from you? ... Do you not know that those who perform sacred services eat the food of the temple, and those who attend regularly to the altar have to share with the altar? So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to get their living from the gospel.

Paul builds on I Corinthians 16:1-2!

Here the Instruction for Giving is Provided!

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also. On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collection be made when I come.

It is from the book of I Corinthians that we find ourselves supplied with a checklist for giving:

1. Giving is to be **systematic** ...

“on the first day of the week.”

2. Giving is an **individual choice** ...

“let each one of you.”

3. Giving is to be **consistent** ...

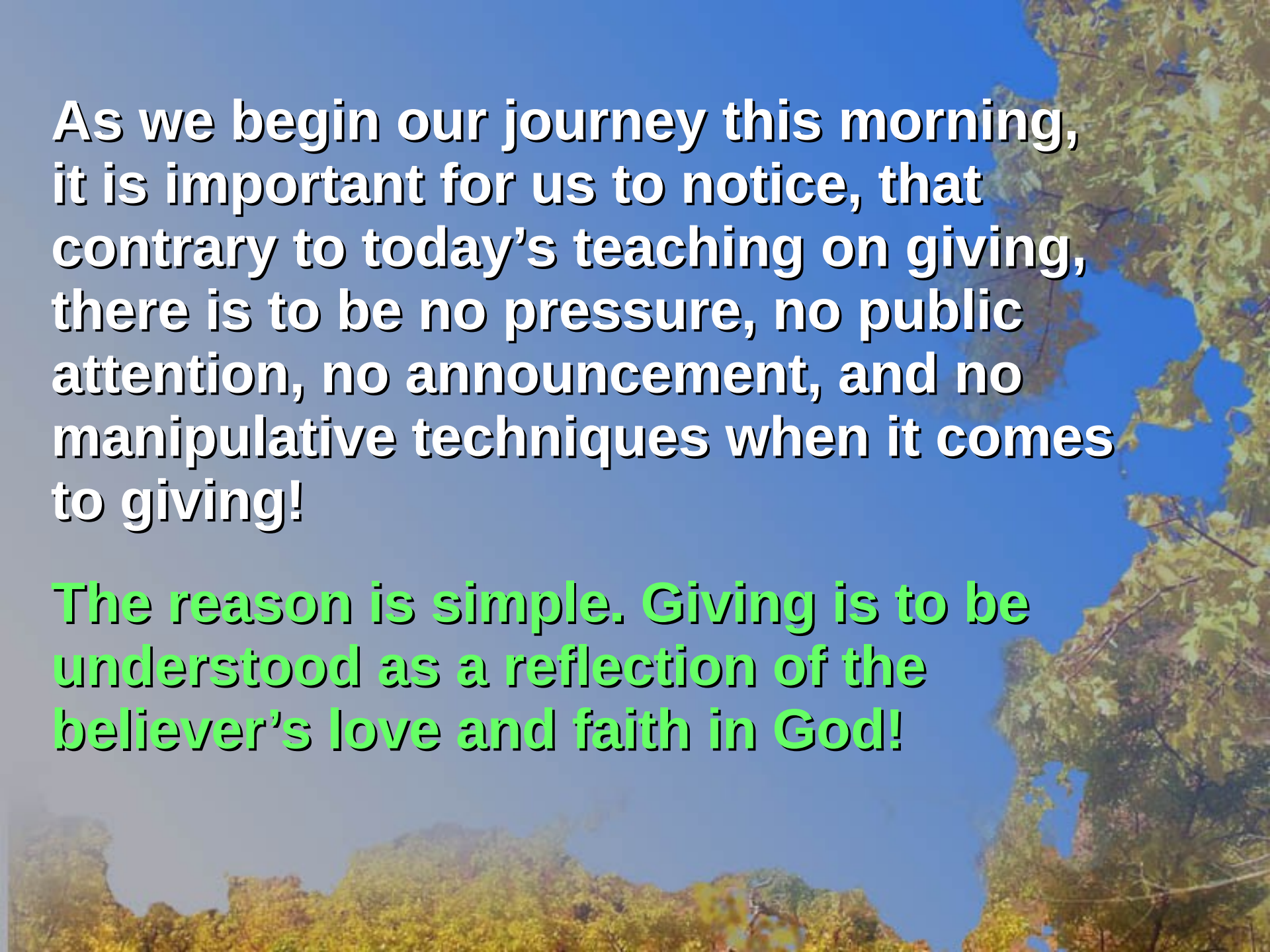
“put aside and save.”

4. Giving is to be **proportionate** ...

“as he may prosper.”

5. Giving is to be a **private matter** ...

“no collection be made when I come.”



As we begin our journey this morning, it is important for us to notice, that contrary to today's teaching on giving, there is to be no pressure, no public attention, no announcement, and no manipulative techniques when it comes to giving!

The reason is simple. Giving is to be understood as a reflection of the believer's love and faith in God!

The Outline for the Second Section!

I. (1:3-5:21) Paul's **COMMISSION!**

II. (6:1-9:15) Paul's **CONVERTS!**

A. (6:1-7:1) Their **FAITHFUL** Partnership in the Gospel!
(Saints: Saved / Seperated / Sanctified / Serve)

B. (8:1-9:15) Their **FINANCIAL** Partnership in the Gospel!
(Serving God Begins with a Sincere and Pure Heart)

The Best Sermons are Lived not Preached!

The Setting for the Section!

Thinking that a division may occur between his critics and his converts upon his arrival in Corinth, Paul makes an appeal for them to be unified in the love of Christ. His plea is for them to reflect Christ's love (when assembled together / scattered apart / and especially when Paul arrives), so that the unbelievers in Corinth might witness the power of Christ's love in the believer's life.

(Let God's love be seen / Focus is outward - Actions)

Confident that the Corinthian believers would follow the example set before them by the Macedonians, Paul again sends Titus to Corinth. Titus is sent with this letter (II Corinthians) and with the task of completing a collection that was to be taken up for the struggling saints living in Jerusalem (Note: We are told in 2:9 that the collection had been going on for about a year).

(Let God's love be seen / Focus is inward - Attitude)

This Morning's Outline!

- I. (8:1-6) The **PRINCIPLES** for Giving!
 - A. (8:1-5) An **Enlightening**.
 - B. (8:6) An **Engagement**.

- II. (8:7-15) The **PURPOSE** for Giving!
 - A. (8:7-9) An **Exposition**: Paul begins with Praise!
 - B. (8:10-12) An **Expectation**: Paul continues with Passion!
 - C. (8:13-15) An **Explanation**: Paul ends with a Plea!

- III. (8:16-9:5) The **POLICIES** in Giving!

- IV. (9:6-15) The **PROMISES** in Giving!

Lessons Learned from Today's Message!

The world says that money is the root of all wealth.
Jesus said that money is the root of all evil.
What do you say?

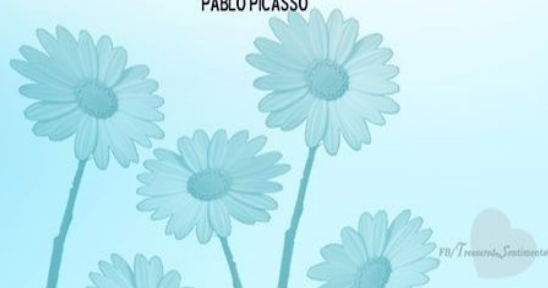


Lessons Learned from Today's Message!

No better example of gracious giving exists than that of the life and death of Christ. We as believers are called to walk in His footsteps.

THE MEANING OF LIFE IS
TO FIND YOUR GIFT. THE
PURPOSE OF LIFE IS TO
GIVE IT AWAY.

PABLO PICASSO



Lessons Learned from Today's Message!

When you give yourself totally to the Lord, giving your time, talents, or treasures is part of that commitment. You shouldn't have to be convinced, or manipulated, or encouraged, or coerced when it comes to giving. If you do find yourself giving with a tight fist, the problem is probably deeper than your wallet.

