

Sermon Title:

"Giving Generously in Tough Times"

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(Part I)

Harbour Shores Church

Sermon Text:

Philippians 4:14-20

10.11.09

Introduction:

➤ ***Holy habits for living in a hostile economy:***

- 1) *Don't live in _____*
- 2) *Don't _____*
- 3) *Make the most of this _____*
- 4) *_____ with family and/or close friends*
- 5) *Be reminded that this too _____*

"No Christian can rightly claim or expect to experience the fulfillment of the promise recorded in verse 19 unless they are doing what verses 14-18 are talking about!"

I. We Must Identify The _____ (4:14-18)

The premise is that God expects us to faithfully support His _____ on earth through our _____!

➤ ***Four reasons why we should support God's work on earth:***

A. Giving is a vital _____ in the lives of _____ (vv. 15-16)

- Because of their frequent and consistent giving, the Philippians were _____ in ministering to Paul's personal needs!

"Never lose sight of the fact that giving is essentially a ministry to others!"

- ***II Corinthians 8:9; Acts 20:35***
- The way that we use our money and material possessions is a vitally important part of living in God's _____ and accomplishing His _____!

B. Giving is essential in the _____ of the _____ of _____ (vv. 15-16; 1:3-5)

- Because of their giving, the Philippians were also _____ in Paul's efforts to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ!
- ***Philippians 1:5; 4:15***

“The main goal of every believer should always be to do whatever it takes and give whatever it takes to take the saving message of the gospel of Christ to the world!”

- The sad fact is that there are a lot of Christians who, because of the unwillingness and unfaithfulness to give, know nothing of that _____ or _____!
- *Philippians 1:12-13; 4:22*

C. Giving is an _____ in the _____ (v. 17)

- What does the phrase, *“profit which increases to your account”* mean?
- Giving to God’s work is a _____ financial investment – one that pays big _____!
- Giving benefits the _____ as well as the _____!
- *Proverbs 11:25; 28:12; I Timothy 6:18-19*
- *Giving generously has a way of disarming the _____ and the _____ of money!*

D. Giving is a pleasing _____ to _____ (v. 18)

- The most important of all is that giving is an _____ in which God takes great pleasure!
- *Exodus 30:8*
“If you really want to show God how much you love Him – then faithfully support His work on earth!”
- We don’t give to God because He is in need – we give in order to _____ Him, _____ Him, and _____ Him!

Conclusion:

Everything in the life of a Christian is about honoring God!
So I ask you – have you been honoring God in your giving?

Remember, it is your responsibility to make the divine principles and truths contained in this message real by consistent application of them in your own life.