

The Forecast
Hilton Baptist Church.
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In 2 Corinthians 8:5, Paul highlights a profound truth about how the Macedonian believers' generosity occurred. Their giving was an outflow of their total commitment to God. They "gave themselves first of all to the Lord."

This act of surrender is the foundation of true generosity.

When we dedicate our lives to God, everything else falls into place. The Macedonians' example teaches us that our generosity should stem from our relationship with Him. By prioritizing their devotion to the Lord, they were able to give freely and abundantly, trusting that God would take care of their needs.

Let's ask ourselves: Have we fully given ourselves to the Lord? When we do, our generosity will naturally follow, not out of obligation, but out of a deep love and trust in God and the promises He has made.

Join us this Sunday as we continue to learn about the secrets of being blessed by being generous. Bring family and friends-- let's experience the miraculous together!



Giving Ourselves First

*"And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us."
2 Corinthians 8:5*

In this powerful verse, the Apostle Paul commends the Macedonian churches for their extraordinary generosity. Their giving was not just about the material contributions but reflected a deeper spiritual commitment. Let's explore the layers of this verse to uncover the profound qualities that made their generosity exemplary.

Paul highlights that the Macedonians gave themselves first to the Lord. This act is the cornerstone of their generosity. True generosity stems from a heart fully surrendered to God. When we prioritize our relationship with God, our actions and decisions naturally align with His will. The Macedonians understood that their primary allegiance was to God. Their giving was an outflow of their devotion to Him.

Their giving was also by the will of God. This phrase signifies that their generosity was not random or coerced but was in sync with God's purpose. They sought God's guidance and obeyed His leading. This willingness to align their actions with God's will highlights their deep trust in Him. It shows their understanding that God's plans are higher than their own.

The Macedonians' generosity extended to Paul and his companions. This indicates a broader perspective on giving - one that sees and responds to the needs of the community. Their actions demonstrated a selfless concern for others, rooted in love and empathy. They recognized that their resources were not just for personal use but were entrusted to them by God to bless others.

Consider doing the following:

Prioritize Your Relationship with God: Spend time in prayer and worship, seeking to deepen your connection with Him. Let your generosity flow from this place of intimacy with God

Seek God's Will: Before making decisions about giving, seek God's guidance. Ask Him to reveal how He wants you to use your resources for His glory.

Be Attentive to Needs: Look around your community and identify areas where you can make a difference. Be proactive in responding to the needs you see.

May we become channels of love and blessings to the world around us!

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

August 6, 2024

Budget \$7590.00

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$25.00

Food Pantry \$25.00

Pure Water Pure Love \$250.00

Total Deposit \$7890.00

Monday, August 5th

6:00-8:30pm VBS

Tuesday, August 6th

12:00pm-1pm Food Distribution

6:00pm-8:30pm VBS

Wednesday, August 7th

6:00pm-8:30pm VBS

Thursday, August 8th

12:00pm– 1:00pm Food Distribution

6:00pm– 8:30pm VBS

Friday, August 9th

11:00am Produce Bagging– See Tara

Sunday, August 11th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Online and In person

Worship at HBC

Food Bank Giveaway after Church

Food Bank July Recap

Sunday Giveaway 260 People, Community Dinner 110 people, Tues and Thursday Distribution 265 A total of 11,750 pounds of food. Thanks to EVERYONE who helped make this a great success!

Calendar

Tuesday, August 13th

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Thursday, August 15th

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Friday August 16th

Produce Bagging– See Tara Borton for more information

7:00pm–9:00pm Karaoke

Sunday, August 18th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Online and Live

Worship at HBC

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Produce Giveaway

Ages 4-12 Years

August 5th-9th
6:00pm - 8:30pm

2024 Vacation Bible School
"Show Casing Christ Character"

ALL FREE!!!!

Call 757-595-3300
to register

Dinner Served
Nightly



VBS– August 5th– 9th This Week!

6:00pm–8:30pm Dinner will be served!

Ages 4– 12 years old!

Pray for a great week!



**American
Red Cross**

We will be hosting our annual Blood Drive on Tuesday, September 9th from 1pm– 6pm and we are looking for volunteers for people to check in the clients. If you can help please let Dreama know. You do not have to work the whole time you can just work as little or as much as you want to.

Happy Birthday in August

8/5 Jennifer Johnson

8/6 Myrna Powell

8/10 Moses Sabb

8/19 Barry Surber

8/27 Baelfire Whiting

8/30 Jan Harvey

8/31 Pat Schell



Senior Adult Awesome

August Rally

Parkview Baptist Church

Thursday, August 15th

12PM to 3PM

Cost \$5.00

Call Mike Haywood 757-708-7557

to register



Lock up/ Hall Monitor 8/11 Lisa and Dave Falls 8/18 Pam Cooke

Counter 8/12 Kathy Caskie 8/ 19 Margaret Upole

Kids Church 8/11 Kathy Caskie 8/18 Lisa York

Grass Cutting– 8/10 Jon / Barbara Michie 8/24 Don Moore/ Joe Caskie

Missions Outreach
Pam Cooke 660-4226

Aluminum Cans

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and place them in the gym or the church office. All money collected goes to missions.

Pray for our Missionaries

CC, JL (Asian Pacific Rim People) JS (Central Asian People) JC (European People) ET (South Asian People) Kathy Daniel , Steve Evans (Sub Saharan African People) Martin Chan (CA Kevin Hanly (CO) Sean Walker (FL) Vincent Dauer (OH) Wes Winebarger (PA)

WMU Project for July– Pure Water Pure Love

Food Pantry /Food Bank Help

If you can help with the Food Pantry /Bank on Tuesday and Thursdays for Food Distribution or on Fridays to bag Veggies, please let the church office know. We also need people to help every Sunday after Food Distribution in the gym to get everything put up. WE CAN USE YOU! We need to add people to our team. No experience is necessary! Come and see if you would like to work with us!

Community Dinner, Friday, August 30th

Thanks to all who came out and helped with the Community Dinner in July. We served about 98 people. The food distribution was a great success. We will be having our next monthly Community Dinner 8/30 at 5:30pm. We can use your help. Not only do we feed people, we also give out Food Bank Distribution. Can you help? Please see Pam Cooke or Tara Borton (Food Distribution) . God is doing great things!

Sedgefield Elementary School Drive

We will be collecting the following items for Sedgefield Elementary School. All items are due back to the church by August 18th.

Boxes of Tissues Hand Sanitizer Disinfectant Wipes

Serve the City Opportunities to Serve

Food Delivery at Berkley Village 8/6 and 8/7

Big Volunteer Day– August 10th There are many ways you can serve. Go to www.stcpeninsula.com to register and get more information.

Enough To Meet Your Needs?

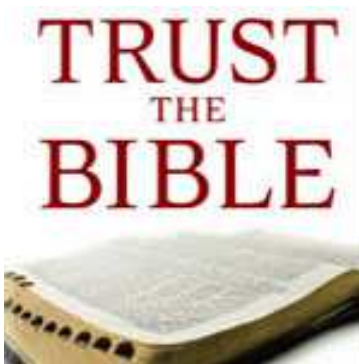
Are you afraid you won't have enough to meet your needs? Let's read the story of the feeding of the 5000 and observe three things about the disciples.



First, they tried to escape the problem. They told Jesus, *"Send them away, that they may go... and buy themselves bread."* (Mark 6:36 NKJV) But He said no. Jesus understood that you grow by dealing with problems, not avoiding them. Your faith increases only as you place a demand on it. Lazy, inactive faith will fail you in the hour of need, so you must feed on God's Word and exercise your faith regularly.

Secondly, the disciples thought what they had wasn't enough: *"There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"* (John 6:9 NKJV) God will ask you to look at what you've got because when you factor Him in, it'll be more than enough to meet the need. In the disciples' hands it was just lunch for one, but in Christ's hands it became dinner for 5000. So put what you have into God's hands and let Him work.

Thirdly, only when the disciples obeyed His plan was their need met. When you ask God for a miracle He will often give you a plan with a set of instructions. At that point your obedience sets the timer, activates the plan and determines the results. With God, there's no lack and no limit. When it was over, *"...they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish."* (Mark 6:43 NKJV) Don't worry, you will have enough!



A mechanic was called in to repair the mechanism of a giant telescope. During the noon hour the chief astronomer came upon the man reading the Bible.

"What do you expect from that?" he asked. "The Bible is out of date. Why, you don't even know who wrote it."

The mechanic was puzzled for a moment, then looked up and replied: "Don't you make considerable use of the multiplication table in your calculations?"

"Yes, of course," replied the other.

"Do you know who wrote it?"

"Why, no, I guess I don't."

"Then," said the mechanic, "how can you trust the multiplication table?"

"We trust it because it works!" snapped the astronomer.

"And I trust the Bible for the same reason. It works!"



For things To Go Well

When God tells you to do something that seems difficult or unpleasant, He's not trying to make your life hard or put you in a straitjacket. Often He's just getting you to a place where He can bless you. "Oh, that they would keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them (Deuteronomy 5:29)

Everything God asks you to do carries this thought with it: that it might go well with you. Living in peace, instead of going to pieces, is easier when you learn to respond to God immediately. Don't hesitate. Don't negotiate. Don't rationalize. And whatever you do, don't run. The only thing that's worse than running away from God is living with the painful aftermath. Your disobedience can take you all the way to the bottom. If you doubt that, stop and read the story of Jonah.

The prophet Samuel said, *"to obey is better than sacrifice."* (1 Samuel 15:22) The truth is, sometimes you'll have to sacrifice certain things in order to obey God. But it's better to do that than to ignore His voice, live stressed out, forfeit His blessings, and end up getting nowhere.

Sometimes God will require things of you that He doesn't seem to require of others; things that He won't explain, and you can't understand. But if you're convinced that He loves you and has a plan for your life, you'll surrender to Him in trust, knowing that in the end it will indeed go well with you.

The Last Impression...

Edward, a big-game hunter, goes on safari in Kenya with his wife, Frances and his mother-in-law, Agnes.

One evening, while still deep in the jungle, Frances awakes to find her mother, Agnes, has disappeared. Rushing to Edward, she insists on them both trying to find her mother.



Sighing heavily, Edward picks up his rifle and starts to search for Agnes. Soon, in a clearing not far from the camp, they come upon a frightening sight.

Agnes, the mother-in-law is backed up against a thick, impenetrable bush, and a large male lion is standing facing her. Frances cries out in panic, Edward, what are we going to do?'

'Nothing,' explains Edward calmly. 'Absolutely nothing, my dearest. The lion got himself into this mess, let him get himself out of it.'



Giving Back To God

The purpose of tithing is to teach us to always put God first in our lives. God doesn't need our money. He wants what it represents: our gratitude, our priorities and our faith. Look at these verses in Proverbs 3. Do you see where it says, *'Honor the Lord by giving him the leftovers of all your income'*.. Now, you can see, that's **NOT** what it says at all.

It says, *"Honor the Lord with your possessions and with the first produce of your entire harvest .."*. We give to God first, before anyone else, right off the top of our income. And here is the promise, *"Then your barns will be completely filled, and your vats will overflow with new wine"*.

As committed believers, we are called to give the first 10% to God. If we're going to be in debt, we will be in debt to other people, but should not be in debt to God. You and I are called to give back to God in gratitude, but also as a demonstration of our priorities. And, it is a demonstration of our faith in his promises.

In Malachi 3:10, God says, *"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse ..."*. That means the place where you worship. Then God says, *"Put me to the test!"* In a sense, *"Test me and see how I will bless you for your obedience"*. God says he will provide all that you need. He doesn't say he'll provide all that we greed, but all that we need.

***God is doing some exciting
new and powerful things
through the faithful people
of God at HBC...***

***Please remember
your commitments and
giving and be part
of the miracle!***

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09-07-2007

EVER WONDER IF GOD HAD ANY SECOND THOUGHTS?