

Giving Wholeheartedly to the Lord!
Mark 12:41-44
Lesson #52
9-27-26

I. Jesus watched the people as they gave their offerings!

A. He was seated in the court of the women.

Mark 12:41a *"Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put"*

Job 41:11b *"... Everything under heaven belongs to me."*

Psalms 24:1 *"The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."*

Haggai 2:8 *"The silver is mine and the gold is mine," declares the Lord Almighty."*

B. He saw the crowd give their money.

Mark 12:41b *"... and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts."*

II. Jesus witnessed the giving of a poor widow!

A. The widow's offering was small.

Mark 12:42 *"But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny."*

B. The widow's offering was special.

Mark 12:43 *"Calling His disciples to Him, Jesus said, 'I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.'"*

2 Corinthians 8:11 *"Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means."*

2 Corinthians 8:12 *"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have."*

2 Corinthians 9:7 “Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7 Amplified “Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind and purposed in his heart, not reluctantly or sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in, prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, “prompt to do it”) giver [whose heart is in his giving].

C. The widow’s offering was sacrificial.

Mark 12:44 “They all gave out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.”

How can we apply this lesson to our life?

A. We should enjoy the opportunities we have to give.

1 Chronicles 29:9 “The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly.”

2 Corinthians 8:1 “And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches.”

2 Corinthians 8:2 “Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.”

2 Corinthians 8:4 “They urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.”

B. We should give equivalent to our income.

1 Cor. 16:2 “On the first day of the week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up.”

C. We should evaluate our motives for giving.

2 Corinthians 9:7a “Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

1 Corinthians 13:3 “If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.”

D. We should eliminate improper motives for giving.

1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

E. We should excel in our giving.

2 Corinthians 8:2 “Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.”

2 Corinthians 8:3 “For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own.”

2 Corinthians 8:7b “... see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”

2 Corinthians 9:6 “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

F. We should entrust our needs to the Lord as we give.

Philippians 4:19 “And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”

Matthew 6:33 “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well.”

2 Corinthians 8:5 “And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord, and then to us in keeping with God’s will.”