

Loving Generosity

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

- Our offerings are to **ble^ss** other **belⁱev^ers**.

- Our offerings are to be **systematic** and **separate** from our other finances.

- Our offerings are to be **secured** and **distributed** by leaders of good **reputation**.

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. According to 1 Cor. 1 – 4, what is the main purpose of giving? And why is it important to remain focused on the main purpose?

2. Read 2 Cor. 8:1 – 9 and discuss the following:
 - a. Did the Macedonian Churches give from their excess or their poverty? (see also Mark 12:41 – 44)

 - b. Who did they give their offering to? And who ultimately received it? (vs 5 and 2 Cor. 9:12)

 - c. Why in verses 7- 9, do you think Paul would want them to excel in giving as much as faith and knowledge?

3. Consider verse 2 of 1 Cor. 16 and discuss the following:
 - a. Who, how much, and how often should we give? Why is it important to be this regimented?

 - b. Why is it important to give to the Church and “weekly” separate it from your other finances?

 - c. How should we evaluate how much we should give? (2 Cor. 9:6 – 7 and Ex. 25:1 – 2).

4. Read 2 Samuel 24:18 – 24. When we give how much should we evaluate how it will impact our other finances?

5. According to verse 4 of 1 Cor. 16, why should we accredit (certify) Godly and trustworthy leaders?

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“I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!” — C.S. Lewis, *The Last Battle*