

**BLESSED HOPE**

**BHBC**



**BIBLE CHURCH**

**Learning of Christ, Loving in Christ, Leaning on Christ, Living for Christ, Leading to Christ  
Based on the Word of God**



# Giving

**A SIGN OF DEVOTION**



**GIVING WITH A WILLING HEART**

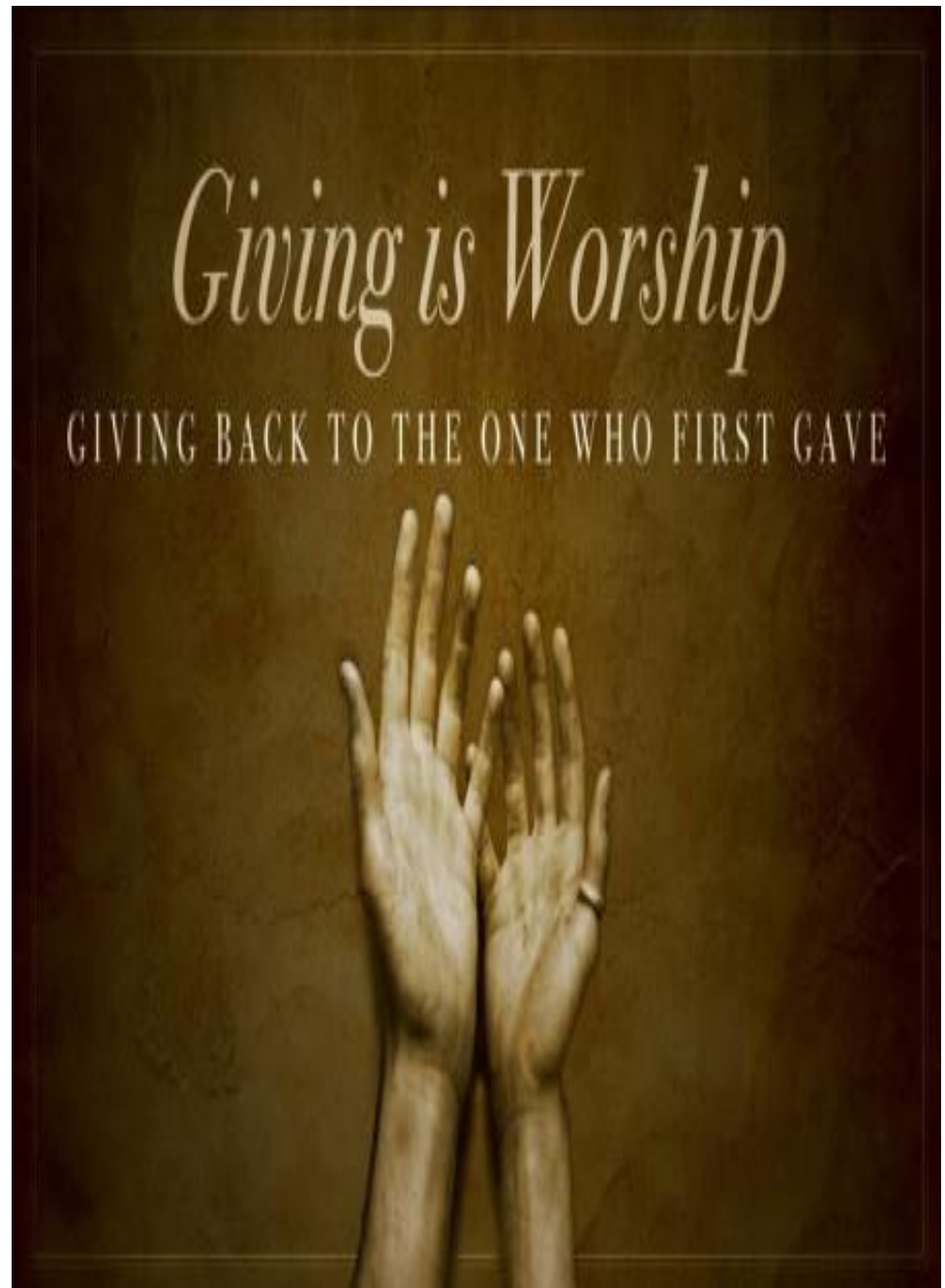


# INTRODUCTION

- When the preacher preaches about giving many may get a bad attitude...
  - He is begging for money
  - He is manipulating us to give more money
  - He is trying to make us feel guilt
  - The church must be going bankrupt



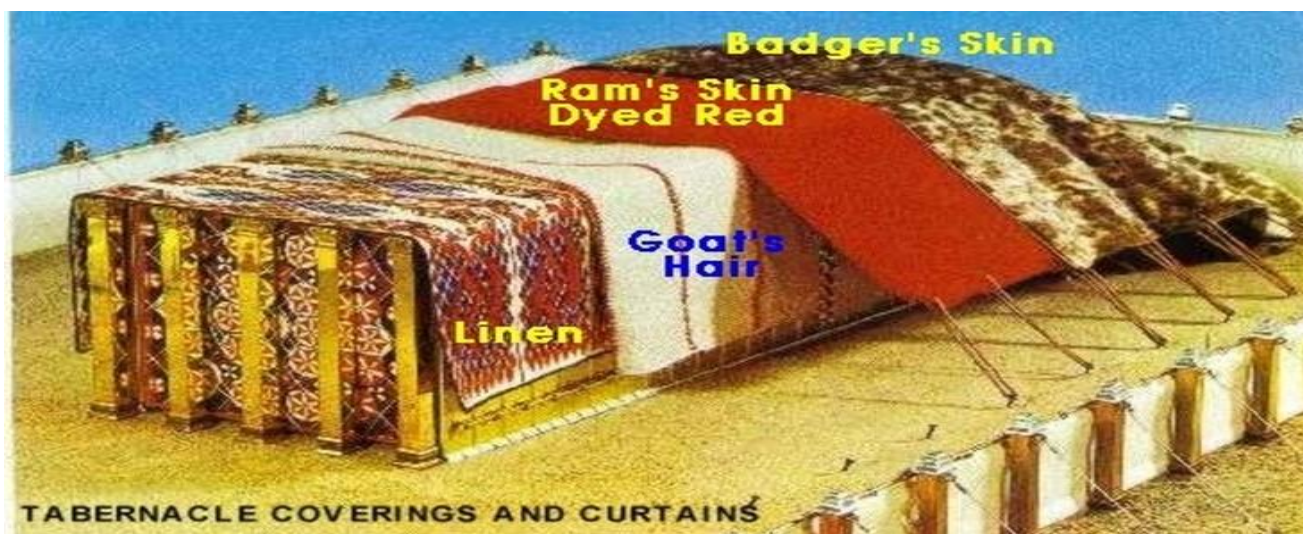
- First, I want to thank all of you who have given to our church.
- Second, the church cannot run without money, however, the church does NOT exist just to collect money.
- Third, our faith and devotion to the Lord compels us to give to the Lord's work.





- **Our purpose as believers is to be co-laborers with one another in the support of the work of the Lord. And that cost money**
- **It is all right for a Christian to live comfortable, make good money, have nice things in life, and go on nice vacations ...**
- **It is not all right to have all these things and fail to support the work of the Lord.**

- **Lesson:** In order for God's work to be done, God's people must give to support it.
- In Exodus 35:1-10 God commands Moses to receive an free-will offering from the children of Israel to build the Tabernacle. From this passage we will consider 4 key PRINCIPLES that teach us how to support the work of the Lord.





# Principle #1:

## **GIVING INVOLVES A RESPONSE FROM GOD'S PEOPLE**



- The children of Israel are now in the wilderness, having been set free from Egyptian bondage.
- The Lord instructs Moses on building the Tabernacle, a place that God may dwell among the people, and a place where they may worship.
- The Lord, through Moses, asks everyone to participate in giving a free-will offering for the building of the Tabernacle.



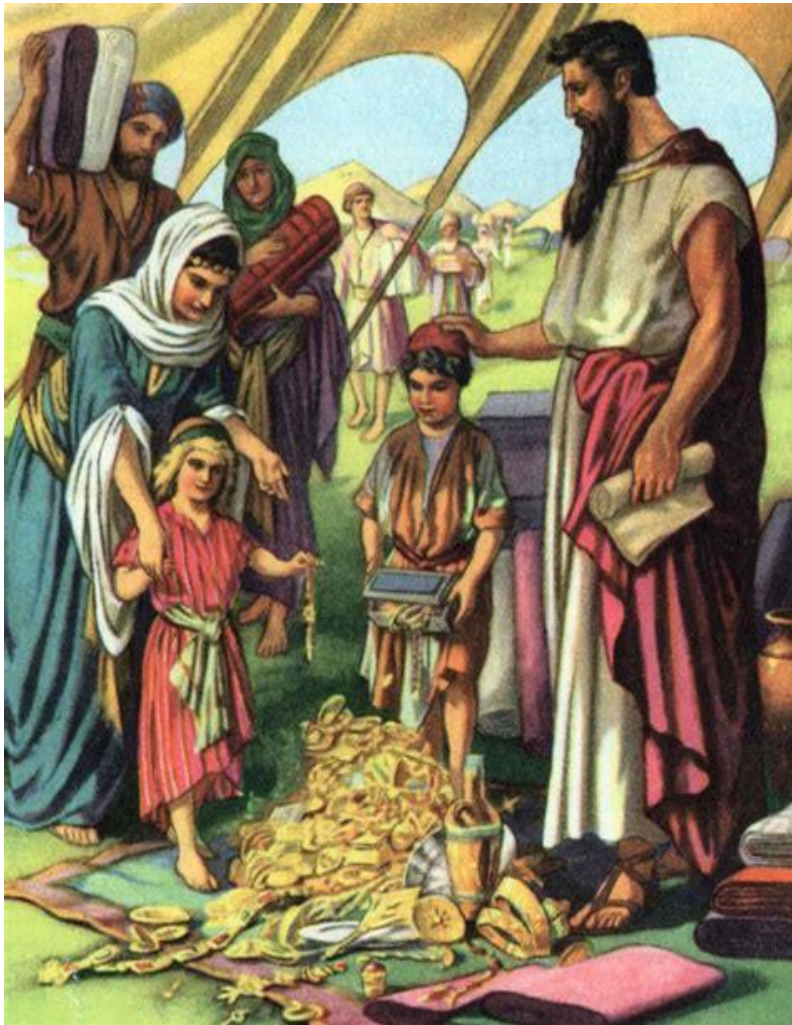
- **Some Lessons**

- Giving to the Lord's work is the result of a **call** to participate on the part of God's people.
- God is NOT asking the government, businesses, nor civic organizations to support His work—He is asking His people.
- God's people must **believe** that God's work must be supported

- God's people must **respond** to the call to support God's work.
- **Warning:** If God's people refuse to respond to the call to support God's work, they will miss out on the joys and blessings of the Lord that will be given to those who do respond to the call to support the Lord's work!!

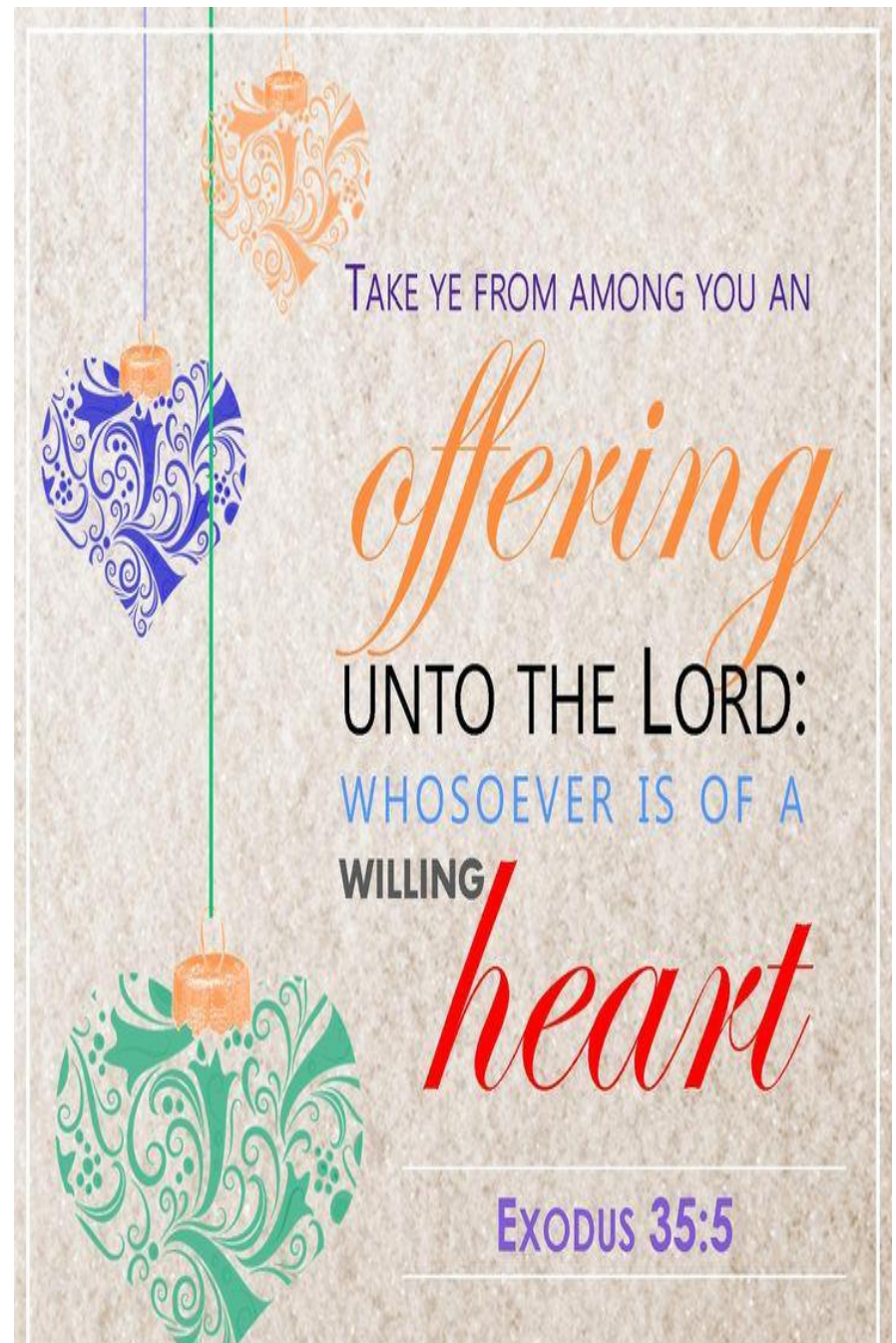
# Principle #2

## GIVING INVOLVES A WILLING HEART



- The offering that was used to build the Tabernacle was to come from a willing heart. Ex.35:5
- Everyone whose heart was stirred and everyone whose spirit was willing, came and brought the Lord's offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. Ex.35:21

- Some Lessons:
  - Giving to the Lord's work is NOT to be out of composition, guilt, Pressure, manipulation or intimidation—it is to be a free-will offering.
  - Men and organizations use pressure tactics to manipulate people into giving—this is because they do not trust the compassion of the Lord
  - **Note carefully:** Not once in the Bible is an offering for the Lord's work to be forced upon God's people!!





## Principle #3

# GIVING INVOLVES GIVING WHAT WE HAVE

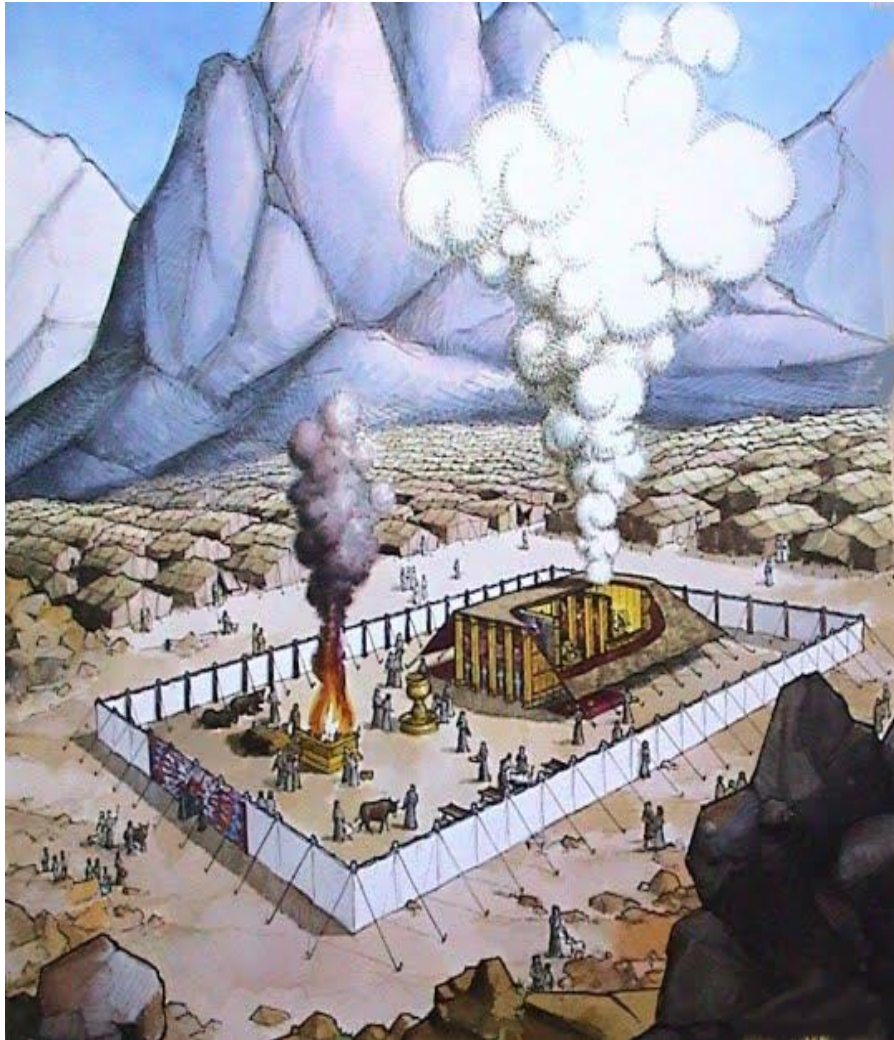


- Some of the people brought gold, silver, bronze, and jewelry made of gold and precious stones
- Others brought fine linen (blue, purple, scarlet)
- Some brought goat's hair, ram and badger skins.
- Others brought building material for the tabernacle.
- Some brought spices and anointing oil

- **Some Lessons:**
  - The people gave what they had as an offering to the Lord from a willing heart, but what they had was the **best** there was!!
  - **Problem:** Many people think they are doing God a favor by giving **Junk** to the Lord (e.g., giving a old broken down computer to the church).
  - **Point:** Whatever you give for the Lord's work, give the best.
- **Notice:** Nobody knew how much each one gave--some gave little, some gave much.
  - Giving is not for bragging rights, or to gain favor from the church; it is to support the Lord's work.
  - **Point:** It is nobody's business how much we give--we are not to keep tabs on how much someone gave.
  - **Warning:** Don't try a trick the church by pretending you gave much when you really didn't--remember Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5!!
  - **Point:** Giving to the Lord's work is based on what you have, not on what you don't have.

# Principal #4

## GIVING INVOLVES PURPOSE



- The people knew exactly what they were giving for-- to build the Tabernacle, a place of worship and learning.
- The giving was not random, it had a purpose, thus it was widespread in participation, including men, women, and even rulers.
- Because the giving had purpose, it went beyond expectation—it was so abundant that Moses had to tell the people to stop giving!!



The Most Holy Place was a 15-foot (4.6-m) cube, containing only the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10–22; 37:1–9). It was here that Yahweh would descend to meet with his people in a cloud theophany (divine appearance). The high priest could enter only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (see note on Heb. 9:7).

The framed structure was covered by four layers of cloth and skin (Ex. 26:1–14).

The table for the bread of the Presence (Ex. 25:23–30)

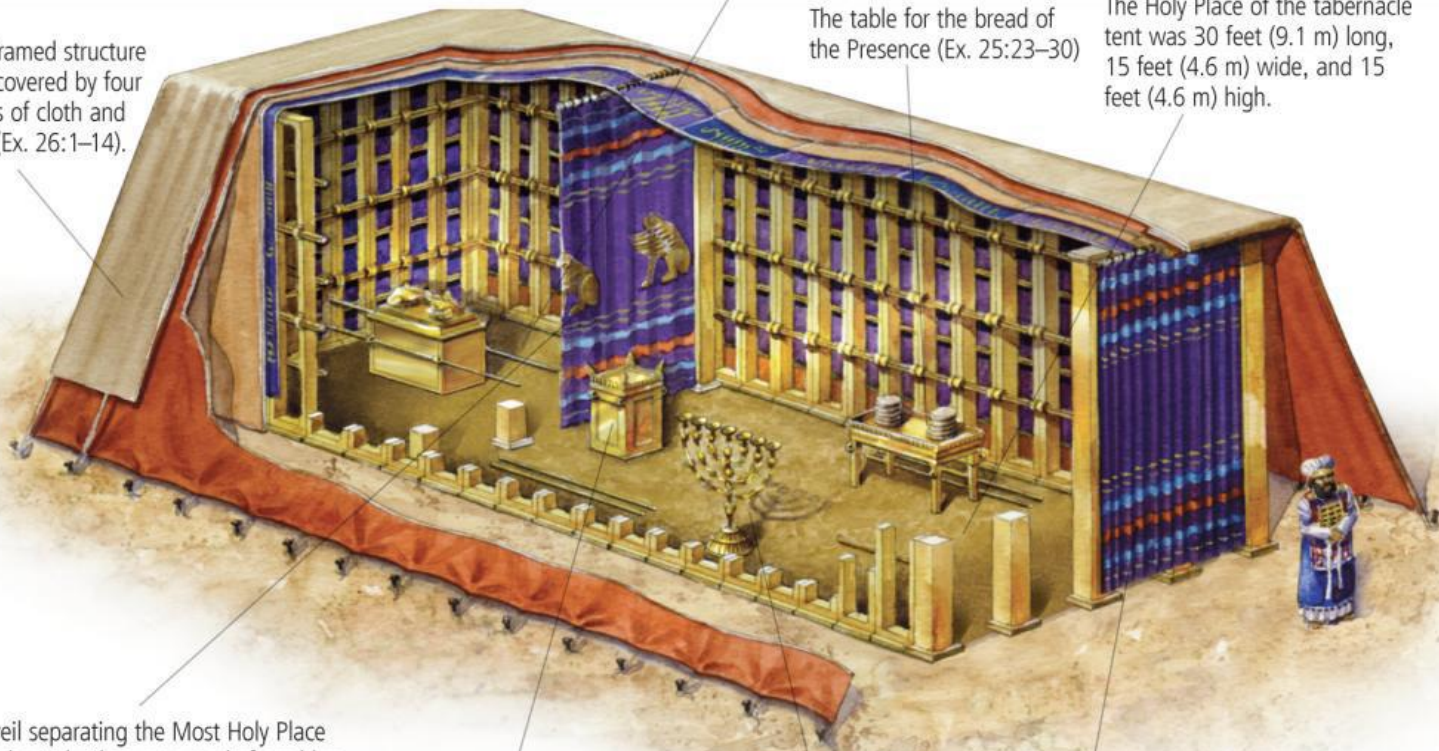
The Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was 30 feet (9.1 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high.

The veil separating the Most Holy Place from the Holy Place was made from blue, purple, and scarlet dyed yarns woven with fine twined linen and embroidered with cherubim (Ex. 26:31–33). It hung on four golden pillars.

The altar of incense (Ex. 30:1–5; 37:25–29)

The golden lampstand (Ex. 25:31–40; 37:17–24)

The veil that formed the entrance to the tabernacle was similar to the veil separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, except that cherubim were not embroidered on it. It was suspended on five golden pillars (Ex. 26:36–37).



- Some Lessons

- For giving to be genuine, there must be a godly purpose to the giving.
- Problem: Many give with a selfish purpose—they give to get; they give to obligate others to them; they give to achieve some personal agenda—and they use their offering as a tool or a threat.
- When we give to meet a selfish need or purpose, we give in vain.
- Our church has a commission from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself: to make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them—we need the free will offerings of God's people from a willing heart to engage in that commission.



# A Challenge for you

- Do you give to the Lord's work from a willing heart?





In order to truly give from a willing heart, you must first receive God's grace with a willing heart.

