

SERMON NOTES

Sunday 1st May
sunnysidechurch

Bible passages 1 Chronicles 29.6-20; 2 Corinthians 9.6-end

Introduction

- Rhythm of Life should include giving
- 2 Corinthians 8-9 Paul writes about how and why they should give to those in need

1. Giving as a response to the generosity of God

- Everything we have comes from God
- Giving gifts, time and money is part of our worship and our response to what God given us
- E.g. Giving for the Temple (1 Chronicles 29) and widow at Zarephath (1 Kings 17)

2. Giving in proportion to our needs

- Giving should be a regular discipline and prayerfully thought through
- Proportional giving should reflect how much we have
- May need to go up or down with our resources

3. Giving willingly and cheerfully

- God loves a cheerful giver
- Because part of our loving response to God should be willing not grudging
- Give willingly even when hard as sign of trust in God

Conclusion

- Giving as part of our witness to God
- We cannot out give God

Some questions for discussion

1. What are you grateful to God for today?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 8-9. What principles of Christian giving does Paul lay out?
3. How might you see giving more clearly as part of your response to what God given you?
4. Read 1 Chronicles 29.6-20. How does this story deepen your understanding of giving?
5. How does giving help us be better witnesses for Christ as individuals and a church?
6. What stories from life or the Bible do you find most challenging or encouraging about giving?
7. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

'Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendour,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.'

1 Chronicles 29.11

Why not spend some time thanking God for his generosity to you and to Sunnyside and ask him to speak to you about giving?

Revd Rebecca Fardell