

## **Challenge**

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### I. Introduction.

- A. Text: II Corinthians 8:7.
- B. The believer must abide in giving in order to abound in life.

### II. Principles of giving from I Corinthians 16:2.

- A. Set aside something for giving according to ability.
- B. Give regularly.
- C. Have a system of giving.

### III. Principles of giving from II Corinthians 8:1-14.

- A. There is joy in giving
- B. Giving is a grace.
- C. Some gave out of poverty and affliction.
- D. They gave out of their ability and beyond.
- E. They finished what was started.
- F. Giving was voluntary.
- G. Giving is modeled by Jesus who became poor so that we would be rich.
- H. If there is a desire to give, God will accept whatever a person can do.
- I. Giving was not intended to put the givers in poverty and make others rich—the needs of communities change hands.

### IV. Principles of giving from II Corinthians 9.

- A. Giving should not be done in covetousness.
- B. If a person gives little, he will gain little in way of fruit.
- C. Giving is to be done cheerfully.
- D. Giving should be done purposefully.
- E. Giving is an individual decision.

F. God loves a cheerful giver because giving is in His character.

G. We give to others to give thanks to God.

H. A person will be enriched by God.

I. God is glorified by others when we give.

J. Giving money is giving a part of a person's life.

**Application questions:**

1. Which principle of giving stands out to you? What strikes you?

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2. How would you respond to someone who says that only people with abundance have an obligation to give?

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3. How can you challenge yourself to give in a way that is meaningful this week? Explain.

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