

The Plight of Ease, Part 2

Purpose for Ease (NT Principles)

1 Cor 16:1-2...
2 Cor 8:1-4
Eph 4:28...

Principle #1 – Emulate Christ’s Response to Ease

- 2 Corinthians 8:9

Principle #2 – Your Excess is not just for Your Ease

- 2 Corinthians 8:13-15
- 1 Timothy 6:17-19
 - a) Gratefully Enjoy – v. 17
 - b) Generously Share – v. 18

Principle #3 – Gladly and Voluntarily Share Your Ease

- 2 Corinthians 9:7

Six Motivations surround this principle...

- 1) What you sow, you will reap – v. 6

Luke 14:13-14
Luke 12:33
Galatians 6:10

- 2) God loves a cheerful giver – v. 7

- 3) God gives seed to the sower – v. 8-11

- 4) Many Thanksgivings to God – v. 12

- 5) Proof of your Salvation – v. 13

- 6) Unity & Fellowship in the Body of Christ – v. 14

Practical signs that you are growing in your understanding of the purposes for Ease

1. You develop a plan for systematically helping needy persons as the Lord prospers you

2. You find that have lately helped or especially blessed a poor person.
3. You hear of a need and you think about how you might meet it, rather than figuring that someone else will take care of it.
4. You familiarize yourself with the unique needs / challenges of those who are low income (transportation, laundry, medicine, unexpected bills, etc.)
5. You consider how you speak about public policies that directly or indirectly burden the poor
6. You spend below your income (leaving some to specifically share with someone in need)