

How Should We Then Give Christmas Gifts?

2 Corinthians 9:15; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 11-27-22

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! – 2 Corinthians 9:15

1. Thinking about Christmas

Is there a Biblical way to think about Christmas and gift giving?

We are to glorify God in our celebration and gift giving. – 1 Corinthians 10:31

We are to love God and others in our celebration and gift giving. – 1 Corinthians 16:14

We are to celebrate and give gifts through faith in the One who gave Himself for us. – Galatians 2:20

We are to think in mature ways about celebrating and gift giving. – 1 Corinthians 14:20

We are to apply the Scriptures to our celebrating and gift giving. – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

2. Celebrating Christmas

Should Christians celebrate Christmas?

Yes, we should celebrate the birth of our Savior. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; Luke 2:8-14; Deuteronomy 26:10-11

We can rightly use in our celebration what might have questionable origins. – 1 Corinthians 10:25-31

We should avoid the ditch of commercialism as well as the ditch of condemnation. – Matthew 2:7-12; 1 Timothy 6:17; Philippians 4:12-13; Luke 12:13-21

3. Giving Christmas Gifts

How should we think about giving Christmas gifts?

Give as if gift-giving is good (because it is). – 2 Corinthians 9:15; Proverbs 19:17; Matthew 26:10; Titus 3:8; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9; Esther 9:20-22; Nehemiah 8:10; Revelation 11:10; Matthew 7:11

Give as if the gift is from God (because it is). – 2 Corinthians 9:15; James 1:17; John 3:27; 1 Corinthians 4:7; 1 Chronicles 29:14-16

Give generously. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; Proverbs 11:25; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; 2 Corinthians 9:10-11; Matthew 10:8; 2 Corinthians 8:11-12

Give by grace or graciously. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; Ephesians 2:8-10; Luke 6:35; Genesis 33:5

Give for the good of others. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; Matthew 7:7-11; Psalm 85:12; Psalm 104:28; Jeremiah 32:39

Give gladly. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Acts 20:35; Luke 14:12-14

Give gratefully. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; 2 Corinthians 8:7-9

Give in remembrance of the Gift. – 2 Corinthians 9:15; John 3:16

The context of 2 Corinthians 9:15 is an exhortation by Paul to the church in Corinth to give financially to support the poor believers in Jerusalem. Paul unites giving to meet needs and bless others to the ultimate gift of God's Son as proper motivation! All good gifts should be seen as pointing to the ultimate Good Gift, God's Son, the Lord Jesus and God Himself!

God's Gift is indefinable because

- (1) **The God behind it all is beyond what we can comprehend.** – Judges 13:18; Job 5:9; Job 37:5; Psalm 43:4; Psalm 145:3; Romans 11:33
- (2) **The grace and love involved is beyond what we can comprehend.** – Ephesians 3:14-19; 1 John 3:1
- (3) **The condescension and suffering involved is beyond what we can comprehend.** – 2 Corinthians 8:9; Philippians 2:5-8; Matthew 26:39; Revelation 19:15
- (4) **The blessings purchased for us are beyond what we can comprehend.** – 1 Corinthians 2:9; Ephesians 2:6-7; Philippians 3:8; Philippians 4:7; Philippians 4:15-20; Job 42:3; Leviticus 26:12; John 17:3

Conclusion

- Will you be giving in a way that glorifies God this Christmas?
- Will you be celebrating the birth of the Savior this Christmas? Have you received the Gift?