

The Practical Matters – Part 1

1 Corinthians 16:1-12; Coast Community Church; Earl Miles; 4-7-2024

Introduction

At the end of 1 Corinthians, Paul deals with various practical matters as he brings his letter to a close. He deals with practical matters because *the practical matters*. It is in the practical aspect of life that we can see what we really think and feel and believe come to light. This is because the practical is always an issue of love which is ultimately rooted in faith.

Giving is a matter of proportion not percentage. (1-3)

¹ Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also. ² **On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper**, so that no collections be made when I come. ³ When I arrive, whomever you may approve, I will send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem; ⁴ and if it is fitting for me to go also, they will go with me. (1-3)

The Practical Matter of Money

Everything we have is from God and belongs to God. (1 Chronicles 29:10-19; James 1:17)

Money is a good thing to be enjoyed and it is not wrong to have more than we need. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

Giving is to be voluntary and cheerful and in proportion to God's blessing. (2 Corinthians 8:12-15; 9:5-11)

Money is a test and a temptation when we have it and when we don't. (Proverbs 30:7-9; 1 Timothy 6:17, 6-10)

God has promised to meet our needs as His children. (Matthew 7:7-11; 6:24-34; Philippians 4:19)

Being in need is an opportunity to trust God for grace and provision. (Philippians 4:10-14; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Luke 21:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

God wants us to make and use money:

- To provide for ourselves.**

¹¹ and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, ¹² so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need. – 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

- To provide for our families.**

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. – 1 Timothy 5:8

To provide for our parents.

³Honor widows who are widows indeed; ⁴but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents; for this is acceptable in the sight of God. – 1 Timothy 5:3-4 (see also Matthew 15:4-6)

To provide for those in need.

He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. – Ephesians 4:28

To provide for the local church.

⁶The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches *him*. ⁷Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. ⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. – Galatians 6:6-8

To provide for missions.

⁵Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially *when they are* strangers; ⁶and they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. ⁷For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. ⁸Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may be fellow workers with the truth. – 3 John 1:5-8

To do good to others.

⁹Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. ¹⁰So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith. – Galatians 6:9-10

Back to Basics

- God is the Supreme Good.
- Man is an idol worshiper.
- Jesus is the double cure.
- Faith is trust in the promises.
- Love is the obedience of faith. – Luke 18:18-26