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# The Art of Sharing

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II COR. 9:1-8INT:

Saddest story you can imagine: A person who wants to go to Heaven; but fails. Forever.

Three reasons any one might fall short of Heaven

1. Failed to obey. II Thess. 1:7-9.
2. Failed to Go. Matthew 28:18-20.
3. Failed to practice the art of sharing. Jas. 1:27. Matt. 25:31-47.

Life does not consist of things. Luke 12:13-15.

All living need to learn art of sharing. I Cor. 16:2

I. EVERY ART OR SCIENCE OF LIFE INVOLVES A PLAN.

A. Step One: Settle dispute in your own heart. II Cor. 9:7.

1. Most dislike sharing; human selfishness.
2. Most don't share enough. Little faith.
3. Dispute: not "sharing", but "faith." Heb. 11:6.
  - a. Does God reward? If so, why worried???
4. Problem: Live by faith or sight. II C. 5:7.

CONCLUSION: All genuine Christians will live by faith and share as best can. A. 3:6.

III. Man & wife. Plan \$100 gift to church. House damaged. Check: \$60. Changed to \$100, why? Not charge damage to God!

B. Step Two: Create a plan for giving. II C. 9:6

1. Approach one: Figure earthly obligations, then share the rest with God.
2. Approach two: Purpose to share first then make obligations of remainder. V. 8.
  - a. Macedonians did it this way. II C. 8:1-5.

C. Step Three: Give plan a fair trial.

1. Determine to do better than Jew's 10%.
2. Estimated this congregation's power to give at \$3,300 at only 10%.
3. The try out: Give at least 12% for six weeks. Then if receive no spiritual or material blessings from it, return to robbing God as in the past. Mal. 3:8-10, Luke 6:38. Verse 8. Matter of faith.

( OVER )

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Matthew 25:31-47.

- C. STEP FOUR: Enjoy the satisfaction of helping Christ and needy human beings.
- 1. I was hungry: Hungry Horace, cupboard and \$2,000 for benevolence.
- 2. I was thirsty: Oriental need: Water. Our need: Water of life. *John Phillips*  
T.V.-Missions-Cottage Meeting
- 3. I was a stranger: Orphan children become strangers to this world. Children's homes over land.
- 4. I was naked: Underclothed. Cold, miserable. Our clothes closet. Ladies can sew and mend. Benevolent fund of \$2,000.
- 5. I was sick: Members and leaders doing well. Wayside and Sherman supports a full-time visitor. Baptizes some.
- 6. I was in prison: Madison, Tenn. church hired Clayton Pepper for full-time work among Davidson Co. youths arrested for crime. Four baptized during April, '59.

Conclusion: What can Jesus say to us if we neglect such vital works as these? V.41.

INV:

- Are you a Christian? Real one?
- Are you disposed to share with God? V. 8.

Sinner friends: Lost without Christ. B- R-C-B.

Erring brother: Turned back on Christ when turned back on His work. R-P.