



“It’s Really Not About the Money”

Exodus 35:4-6 (NIV)

Moses said to the whole Israelite community, “This is what the Lord has commanded: ⁵From what you have, take an offering for the Lord. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the Lord an offering of gold, silver and bronze; ⁶blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen; goat hair;

Exodus 35:20-21 (NIV)

Then the whole Israelite community withdrew from Moses’ presence, ²¹and everyone who was willing and whose heart moved them came and brought an offering to the Lord for the work on the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the sacred garments.

It’s really not about the money but . . .

1. It is about everyone growing in generosity.

2. It is about the question of ownership. (1 Chronicles 29:11)

Stewardship: Managing God's resources for God's glory.

- A manager doesn’t feel guilty about his stuff, he feels responsible. (Malachi 3:10)

3. It is about proper motivation!

Exodus 35:21 (NIV)

and everyone who was willing and whose heart moved them came and brought an offering to the Lord for the work on the tent of meeting, for all its service, and for the sacred garments.

- True generosity flows from a heart that is thankful for the grace and mercy of God. (Romans 5:20; 2 Corinthians 9:7)

4. It is about my world view. (Matthew 16:26)

5. It is about faith, not fear.

- Fear is a greater deterrent to stewardship than greed.

Colossians 1:16-17 (NIV)

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Exodus 36:3-7 (NIV)

They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. ⁴So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing ⁵and said to Moses, “The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done.” ⁶Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: “No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.” And so the people were restrained from bringing more, ⁷because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

- Giving is a chance for my faith to intersect with God’s faithfulness.