

RECEIPTS:

What I Give

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Pastor Augie Iadicicco



Notes:

The Christian churches in Macedonia were impoverished. But that did not stop them from being generous. So often, we create excuses not to be generous. But if we truly took stock of what we had, we might just find that we can give in ways we never imagined!

¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁷ But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

- 2 Corinthians 8:1-5, 7

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

- Galatians 2:20

My Next Step(s):

- I will give with a spirit of generosity.
- I will give in proportion to my earnings (which are a gift from God).
- I will give sacrificially—giving up something that I wanted for myself.
- I will give freely—not out of compulsion or guilt.
- I will pray for God to give me a heart of generosity.

Memory Verse: Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

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(This message uses materials provided The Preaching Project, San Antonio, TX.)