

THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

"SHARE YOUR FRENCH FRIES"

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Introduction

God is the source of everything we have. God has provided us generously and extravagantly (Gen 22). He owns everything in this world (Ps 52:8, Haggai 2:8) and these are His provisions for all of us. He takes delight in giving us everything we need (Jer 33:3). When we pray to Him, He will give us mighty things; God can always give us "supersized French fries."

God asks: "What is in our hands?"

1.Our Talent

In Exodus 3 - 4, Moses felt incapable when God asked him to lead the Israelites to freedom because He was an 80-year-old murderer and smelled like sheep. God can take the weakest instrument to accompany His mightiest ends. The simplest of things can be used by God to do mighty works. The talents we have can be used to achieve God's purpose in our life.

2. Resources: Treasure/Time

David was a generous giver. He was called the "man after God's own heart." Despite being a sinner and murderer, he was forgiven (Ps. 51, Ps 32). David provided Solomon all the materials needed to build the temple in Jerusalem (1 Chron. 22:5).

- **2.1** David felt it was a privilege for him to give back to God. He gave wholeheartedly. Giving back to God is the best way to give him glory.
- **2.2 David had given from his own treasury**. (1 Chron 29:1-2) Some of us are inclined to hold on to what God has given us, thinking, "This is mine." Acknowledging God owns everything, David gave the best from his own treasury.
- **2.3** David was a lavish giver. He added to whatever he had already given (1 Chron. 29:3).
- **2.4 David obeyed.** (1 Chronicles 22:12-13). In the same way, let us follow what God asks us to do. We will only be successful when we obey.

- **2.5** Giving out of gratitude was the prayer of David (1 Chronicles 29:10-19); "Give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thes. 5:18).
- **2.6 David charged the leaders**. Leaders should exhort members to give so that they will also receive the blessing (1 Chron. 22:17).
- **3.The early Christians gave lavishly to** the **church (Acts 4:34)**. The Macedonians begged Paul to take part in the service of the holy ones (2 Corinthians 8:4).
 - **3.1They gave over and above**. David said, "I will not offer anything that cost me nothing" (2 Samuel 24:24). The Lord's Flock members gave over and above their tithes, love offerings, and temple tribute offerings to furnish the Heritage Sanctuary.
 - **3.2Their giving was generous as they were joyous**. They were willing to share and were rejoicing as they were giving. Let us pay our tithes in a spirit of joy (2 Cor. 9:8).
- **4.Sharing glorifies God**. Giving shines a light to the original giver. All that we have comes from Him, and He also motivates us to share all with others (1 Tim 6:17-19).
- **5.Devoting time in prayer is seeking the Lord our God (**1 Chronicles 22: 19).

God loves to bless us and to share His bounty (supersize fries) with us. Let us offer our service, talents, and spiritual gifts to our community. This will give us a moment of great joy (1 Cor. 12).

Reflection:

- 1. What is in your hand that you can offer to God?
- 2. What will be our response when He wants a part of what he has given us?

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