



Pastor Scott Archer 07.17.2016*

Central Congregational Church

"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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Investing in Eternity

Philippians 4:14-23

Series: The Joy Factor

Central Passage

Philippians 4:14–20 (ESV) — 14 Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. **15** And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. **16** Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. **17** Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. **18** I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. **19** And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. **20** To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Central Thought: Consistent, generous giving to God's people and his kingdom purposes is one of the most crucial and beneficial disciplines we can develop as followers of Jesus Christ.

Our Giving to God's People and Purposes...

❖ Is a significant sign of our belief in the gospel Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 8:1–5 (ESV) — 1 We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, **2** for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. **3** For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, **4** begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints—**5** and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

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❖ Is a solid investment in our eternal future in God's kingdom.

Matthew 6:19–21 (ESV) — 19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, **20** but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

❖ Is a savory and satisfying offering directly to God.

Exodus 29:15–18 (ESV) — 15 “Then you shall take one of the rams, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram, **16** and you shall kill the ram and shall take its blood and throw it against the sides of the altar. **17** Then you shall cut the ram into pieces, and wash its entrails and its legs, and put them with its pieces and its head, **18** and burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the LORD. It is a pleasing aroma, a food offering to the LORD.

John 4:23–24 (ESV) — 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. **24** God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

A Staggering Promise

Philippians 4:19 (ESV) — 19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:33 (ESV) — 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Psalm 37:25 (ESV) — 25 I have been young, and now am old, yet **I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.**