

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment .

I recently read the biography of a very influential Christian leader of the twentieth century, Dr. Henrietta Mears. Dr. Mears was the director of Christian education at Hollywood Presbyterian Church in Hollywood, California. She had an enormous impact, shaping the direction of prominent Christian leaders such as Bill Bright that came out of her ministry there in the early and middle part of the last century. Dr. Mears was an extremely generous person. Her generosity was legendary. She received incredible joy in giving, especially helping young people entering the ministry. She realized she was investing in eternity, and that simply thrilled her soul.

Dr. Mears understood what the Bible teaches: money is a resource to be used by God to accomplish His purposes. Every penny we have really belongs to God, not only the ten percent we might dedicate to the Lord.

In 2 Corinthians chapter 8, verses 3 through 5, there's an incredible perspective on giving. Listen to these words; “For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord, begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints, and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.”

Here Paul is talking about the generosity of the church there in Corinth. He says that they freely gave. They gave of their own accord. Giving is an evidence of our surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. We want to freely give because the cause of Christ is bigger than we are, and we're grateful to God.

Here's what I want you to remember today. God gave the best He had to communicate His love for us. Out of gratitude and love, we ought to give back to Him what He's placed in our hand.