

Sunday, 07-30-2023

Gifts for the Temple
Bible Background: Ezra 8:24-30
Printed Text: Ezra 8:24-30 KJV/NLT
Devotional Reading: Mark 12:38-44

Aim for Change:

- **KNOW** that as an act of worship, we should be willing to give generously of our time and talents to the Lord.
 1. Do I **KNOW** that as an act of worship I should be willing to give generously of my time, talents, and abilities to the Lord?
 - **FEEL** that we should give to the Lord.
 2. How do I **FEEL** that I should give to the Lord?
 - **GIVE** to the Lord.
 3. Do I enjoy **GIVING** to the Lord?
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Devotional Reading: Jesus Warns Against the Religious Leaders – Mark 12:38-40; Sat: The Gift of a Poor Widow – Mark 12:41-44

- Do I come to church to put on a show? Do I go through church rituals with the wrong heart/intentions? Are my actions consistent with my beliefs? Do I give with gratitude or out of habit grudgingly? – **2 Corinthians 9:6-9**
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Focal Verses – The Offering for God’s House – Ezra 8:24-30

1. Doing Service (vv. 24-27)

- Has the resources God’s given, and I been set apart from secular to divine service for the Lord? – **Proverbs 21:1-2** If what God has designated for His use will always prosper, why do I act first, before seeking guidance from God (*Discuss the Meaning*)? How are my blessings received through prayer? How am I willing to give service to the Lord? – **Wed: Numbers 7:1-6** Do I need the guidance/direction of the priest/pastor? Is my heart moved to generosity for God’s mission? Do I give with the right heart/attitude? Do I give without holding back? – **Tue: Exodus 35:20-29** Does the size of the offering matter? – **Sat: Mark 12:41-44**

2. Consecrated for Service (vv. 28-30)

- How have I been set apart to do the Lord’s work? – **Leviticus 19:2-5** How have I accepted the task given by God? – **Joshua 24:16-28** Is there a specific need that is being neglected (**Liberating Lesson**)? How do I treat the resources God has given me? – **Thu: 2 Chronicles 31:2-10** How would Jesus’ rate my stewardship? Do I have a willing heart to give of my time, talents, and resources? – **Fri: Mark 12:28-34**