

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

Giving Goal Sunday

Speaker:

Peter Privitera

Date:

August 31st, 2026

Scriptures:

Various texts

Theme: Master money by serving Christ.

Introduction: It is good to give thanks to God for all things. For members of Crossway Church, this includes our building. Our Lord is the one who provided our meeting house. God has done for us what seemed impossible for man. As we consider giving to the Building Fund, it is important to remember that Jesus spoke often about money. That is because our relationship with money can be a good indicator of the state of our souls.

There are three biblical principles that guide our theology of wealth and giving:

1. Everything we have comes from God.

- Just because parents provide does not mean children should not be grateful. So it is with God: God provides, and we ought to show gratitude.
- If you possess anything, it is because God ordered it be so.
- When we receive wages, there is more going on than "I work, then I get paid." Everything about it—the conditions, circumstances, skills, etc—are a gift from God.
- If you boast in anything you have, that is a sign that it is mastering you.

2. All that God has given you is yours.

- Of course, all things are God's. However, God gives them to us to direct them as we see fit.
- No institution (church, government, or otherwise) may *compel* an individual to give.
- Ananias's story in Acts 5 reveals that all that God gives is ours (Acts 5:4), but we are responsible before God for what we think about and do with it.

3. All our money should be used to worship.

- There are many pitfalls with money, because it is a critical component of being an embodied soul in a fallen world.
- The problem with money is not the money itself but the heart behind it.
- The Christian answer to money is not to shun it. The Christian answer to money is using it to worship (Matt 6:21).

Questions:

1. What is your attitude toward the gifts given to you from God? Is there anything in your life you are tempted to boast in, as if you did not receive it (see 1 Cor 4:7)?
2. How does your relationship with money reveal what you treasure?
3. How do you need to master money by serving Christ?