

# Improving Your Serve

## Lesson 3

2 Cor 8:1-5; 7-12; 9:6-8

### The Servant As A Giver

One of the basic characteristic of a Servant is the desire to give. The servant as a giver will seek opportunities to contribute to the work of Christ or His people consistently, generously, sacrificially, and so cheerfully that others are encouraged and blessed. The **Servant Giver** has a passion for giving, not looking for anything in return, there are no expectations. That which is given could include time, talent, money or some service needed by your family or a friend, the church, the community, or the country. The **Servant Giver** is not concern about where the gift goes because they have confidence in Christ and their reason for giving is not recognition or vain glory. The **Servant Giver** presents every gift as if it was unto the Lord Jesus, received by Holy Spirit, and motivated by an everlasting love. (John 13:3-5, 12-17)

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A careful examination of the character of the **Servant Giver** reveals a spirit of authentic humility and a willingness to give up their own rights or possessions to provide for someone else. **Servant Givers** are others oriented, they see life from a "We" and "US" perspective and not "I" and "Me". The **Servant Giver** is guided by Christ's unconditional love so, they are able to reach out in love and humility to those in need showing that Christ cares and will help. (2 Cor. 5:14-15)

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The most unique quality of the **Servant Giver** is that they may not possess the material resources to meet every need, but they are motivated to give abundantly not "out of" their possessions but "according to" them. They never operate based on amount but out of love and a genuine desire to give as Christ has given into their lives and according to what they have. (Rom 12:10-13)

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The book **Improving Your Serve**, suggest that to learn to SERVE we must focus on the “Basics” of Giving, Forgiving, and Forgetting, so we can’t be manipulated by our “**me-orientation**” culture.

**1. What does the scripture say about the Basics?**

**Phil 2:3-4**  
**Gal 5:13**

**2. How should servants give?**

What’s the driving force for giving is it a great display of resourcefulness that makes us generous and caring. The spirit of giving will challenge us to give to God’s work beyond our natural ability to provide and out of our own need, and it shows us we should not to limit our giving to just what we can physically calculate.

Look at what the Church at Macedonia did when they learned that the Church at Jerusalem was in need.

According to 2 Cor 8:1-5, how did the Church at Macedonia demonstrate servanthood in their giving.

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**3. Principle for how a servant should give:**

**Anonymously**

How should we participate as givers in an act of kindness?

2 Cor 8:1 \_\_\_\_\_

Matt 6:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_

**Generously**

What should be the givers attitude about supporting the needs of the Church?

2 Cor 8:2-3 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Tim 1:16-18 \_\_\_\_\_

**Voluntarily**

How should we approach an opportunity to give to the work of the Church?

2 Cor 8:3-4 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Cor 9:7 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Pet 5:2-3 \_\_\_\_\_

**Personally**

What should be our involvement in meeting the needs of the Church?

2 Cor 8:5 \_\_\_\_\_

Jam 1:22 \_\_\_\_\_