

SURRENDER

Which of you if his son asks for bread would give him a stone. Or if he asks for fish would give him a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children ... *(Matt. 7:9-10)*

MOTIVATION for giving does not
begin with the person who is asking.
It begins in the heart/mind of the
person who is asked!

ATTITUDE > APPEAL > ANSWER

If someone we love/respect asks for bread, we will give them the loaf.

If someone we do not love/respect asks (even begs) for bread, we will give them crumbs.

RELATIONSHIP motivates (or demotivates) hugely!

WHAT POSSIBILITIES MOTIVATE OUR GIVING?

- ✓ to be nice
- ✓ to be helpful
- ✓ concern for a cause
- ✓ self benefit
- ✓ love

When I give out of love, my gift is not measured by **quantity** but **quality**.

Love never asks “How much must I give?” but “How much can I give?”

***WHAT IS GOD LOOKING FOR
IN OUR GIVING?***

that we understand his
OWNERSHIP (worship)

that we accept and surrender
to his OWNERSHIP (lordship)

that we love and seek his
salvation and KINGDOM

that our REAL MOTIVATION for giving is not (simply) circumstance or concern but SURRENDER of our heart to him.

...about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and extreme poverty welled up into rich generosity ... they gave as much as they were able and even beyond what they were able ...

They pleaded for the privilege of sharing [money] ... they gave themselves FIRST TO THE LORD [surrender] and then to us [donation] which is exactly in keeping with God's will! (*II Cor. 8:1-5*)