

Review from Sunday's Message for Personal Meditation:

- i. Message points for meditation and application:
 - a. The finances of Immanuel Bible Church are received from the free-will offerings of people who care for, and are committed to, the Lord and His ministry through this local church.
 - b. God provides the ability to produce wealth, and gives the material blessings to be a blessing to others. (Deut. 8:17-18a; Eph. 4:28; 2 Thess. 3:6-15)
 - c. The Apostle Paul's advice to the Corinthian Church on the matter of giving (Key Scriptures: 2 Cor. 8:1-15; 2 Cor. 9:6-15)
 - i. Give what you said you were going to give.
 - ii. Give according to your means.
 - iii. Give to minister grace to others.
 - d. We happily give:
 - i. As an act of worship – expressing our love and appreciation to God.
 - ii. As an act of humility – recognizing the needs and interest of others and serving them.

Questions for Reflection, Application and Fellowship:

- i. God expects work and income to be a provision for living, for meeting the needs of the family, and to bless others.
 - a. How does giving back to God reveal that we believe God owns everything, and has provided us everything?
 - b. What does a failure or reluctance to give to God and His work reveal?
- ii. How is giving an antidote for covetousness, materialism and consumerism? How is covetousness, materialism and consumerism a danger to the life of the Christian?
- iii. How does freedom from the law influence a Christian's giving (in practice and in attitude)?