

Faith Promise Offering

II Corinthians 8-9 Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; 2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. 3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; 4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. 5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

I. They saw the need!

- A. The saints in Jerusalem were suffering **Acts 11:29** Then the disciples, every man **according to his ability, determined** to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:
- B. There was a special offering needed for the poor saints in Jerusalem **Romans 15:25-26** But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints. 26 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to **make a**

certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

C. The saints were laying aside an offering each week

I Corinthians 16:1-4 Now concerning the **collection for the saints**, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you **lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him**, that there be no gatherings when I come. 3 And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem. 4 And if it be meet that I go also, they shall go with me.

II. The saints wanted to take part

A. They begged to be allowed to take part 8:4 **Praying** us with much **intreaty** that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

B. They were struggling financially 8:2 How that in a **great trial of affliction** the abundance of their joy and their **deep poverty** abounded unto the riches of their liberality.

- C. They wanted to do something bigger than was in their power-show their faith 8:3 For **to their power**, I bear record, yea, and **beyond their power** they were **willing of themselves**;
- D. They were giving money they were giving themselves 8:5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but **first** gave their **own selves to the Lord**, and unto **us** by the will of God.

III. They made a promise

- A. He reminds them of the promise and challenges them to fulfill their promise 8:10-11 And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. 11 Now therefore **perform the doing of it**; that as there was a **readiness to will**, so there may be a **performance** also out of that which ye have.
- B. He doesn't need to remind them of the offering because they had such desire 9:1 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is **superfluous** for me to write to you:
- C. He has bragged on them and used their zeal to motivate many others 9:2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which **I boast of you** to them of Macedonia,

that Achaia was ready a year ago; and **your zeal hath provoked very many.**

- D. He wants them to have the offering ready so that he will not have bragged in vain 9:3-4 Yet have I sent the brethren, **lest our boasting of you should be in vain** in this behalf; that, as I said, **ye may be ready:** 4 Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you **unprepared,** we (that we say not, ye) should be **ashamed in this same confident boasting.**

IV. Paul reminds them of God's promises

- A. God will bless you by how you have given 9:6 But this I say, He which soweth **sparingly** shall reap also **sparingly;** and he which soweth **bountifully** shall reap also **bountifully.**
- B. They should only give as they want to because God loves a cheerful giver 9:7 Every man according as he **purposeth** in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for **God loveth a cheerful giver.**
- C. God makes His grace abound because of their gift 9:8 And God is able to make **all grace abound toward you;**

that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

- D. They will have enough for everything because they giving to good works **9:8** And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having **all sufficiency in all things**, may abound to every good work:

V. Paul took up and delivered the offering

- A. Paul took the offering **Acts 11:29-30** Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: **30** Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.
- B. They were to have it ready so he would not have to do any gathering **I Corinthians 16:2** Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there **be no gatherings when I come.**

VI. How it works with our missionaries

- A. You see the need

1. We have been given a command [Matthew 28:18-20](#)
And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me** in heaven and in earth. [19](#)
Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: [20](#) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
2. They are condemned already [John 3:18](#) He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is **condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
3. You are embarrassed that all do not know
[I Corinthians 15:34](#) Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

B. You want to take part

1. God only wants an offering of the willing [8:3](#), For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; [12](#); For if there be first **a willing mind**, it is accepted according to that a man

hath, and not according to that he hath not. 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2. It is a reasonable sacrifice Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

C. You make a promise so we can have a budget

1. You pray about what you want to do
2. You ask God to lay on your heart an offering that He would have you to give
3. You promise Him that you will give as He provides
4. This is a step of faith
5. Your faithful gift allows us to by faith take on missionaries
6. We promise to give by faith as a church trusting Him to provide through you our promise

D. Each week we work towards that offering

1. We each pray and ask God to give through us
2. The church takes our combined offerings and disperses them to our missionaries

E. An explanation of faith promise and deputation

1. The Holy Spirit is the Lord of the Harvest Matthew 9:38
 - a) He directs every step of the way
 - b) He raises up a church
 - c) He calls the men
 - d) He touches the hearts of His people to give
 - e) Holy Spirit opens other doors for missionaries or sent out ones to raise support
 - f) Holy Spirit empowers His men on the field as they preach
 - g) The Holy Spirit convicts and saves on the field
2. God calls a man by placing a strong desire in his heart
Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.
3. The couple get training and preparation from their home church
4. They are commissioned and sent out
5. They travel to different churches
 - a) Must call 1000 numbers
 - b) Get into about 300 over 2 years
 - c) Have 100 take them on for support

6. Each church gives an offering usually based on faith promise
7. Each person is giving as they decide to give through their church to send missionaries II Corinthians 9:7
8. The weakness of this method is every step that is human
9. You can trust the Holy Spirit to do His job
10. It is His work and He does it all!