

Covenant Life Together Series: Worshipping God with our Money, Part 2
GCC, 12/16/18, Vesper

- A. Introduction: The why and the what of 2 Cor 8 and 9 as a model for our giving
- B. Ten Principles of Grace-Produced, Gospel-Shaped, God-Glorifying Giving:
1. **Our Giving is initiated by God's grace** (2 Cor 8:7–9)
 2. **Our Giving is motivated not by a command but by love** (2 Cor 8:8; 2 Cor 9:5)
 3. **Giving transcends difficult circumstances, i.e., it is sacrificial** (2 Cor 8:2)
 4. **Giving is cheerfully liberal** (2 Cor 8:2; 2 Cor 9:7)
 5. **Giving is proportionate, realistic and voluntary** (2 Cor 8:3; 2 Cor 9:7)
 6. **Our Giving is in accordance with the law of proportionate returns** (2 Cor 9:1–7)
 7. **Our Giving deepens our spiritual union and communion with other members in the body of Christ** (2 Cor 9:14)
 8. **Our Giving supports the ministries of the church** (Matt 10:10; Luke 10:7; 1 Cor 9:6–14; 1 Tim 5:17–18; Gal 6:6)
 9. **Our Giving is regular, universal and on the Lord's Day** (1 Cor 16:1, 2)
 10. **Our Giving should be righteously administered** (1 Cor 16:3; 2 Cor 8:18–23)
- C. Practical Considerations
1. While we cannot say that the New Covenant People of God have a moral obligation to give 10% of their income, these ten Pauline principles for giving give us a picture of giving that does not think in terms of a specific number but of a specific Savior.
 2. It is not only a long-practiced **custom** with historical precedence but also a helpful benchmark and starting point to strive to give 10%.
 3. We must begin to teach our children now the principle of giving and 10% is a good benchmark.
 4. Gross or Net?
 5. Our Giving is grace-produced, gospel-shaped, and God-Glorifying (John 3:16)