The Harvest Of Missions

"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:37-38

## 3-fold message of Matthew 9:37-38

- 1. THE HARVEST IS PLENTIOUS
- 2. THE HARVEST IS PERISHING
- 3. THE HARVEST IS PRECIOUS

What Is Faith Promise Giving?

**FAITH PROMISE GIVING** is the amount an individual promises to give "by faith" to the local church for missions above and beyond your regular tithes and offerings.

**FAITH IS BIBLICAL** - The Word of God teaches that we are saved by faith; we should live by faith; walk by faith; whatever is not of faith is sin; and that without faith it's impossible to please God!

**PROMISE IS BIBLICAL** - God's Word says, "Vow, and pay unto the Lord your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared"

Psalm 76:11

GIVING IS BIBLICAL - Offerings were required under law, but expected of believers in this age of grace. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall

men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Luke 6:38

Faith is the **basis** of the **offering**. Simply put, believers will **ask God** for an amount to give for missions, and then **trust God** to provide the amount. Trusting God in this manner both increases faith and spiritual growth.

Why Is Faith Promise Better?

## IT IS BASED ON FAITH

"For we walk by faith, not by sight."

2 Corinthians 5:7

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:"

Colossians 2:6

## IT EXALTS THE LORD

As God supplies the means for giving, He is glorified. The more we depend upon God, the more He is exalted in our lives.

2 Corinthians 9:13

## ITS POTENTIAL IS GREATER

Obviously, one can give more IF there is more to give. Faith Promise Giving trusts God to supply the gift from His limitless resources.

2 Corinthians 9:8; Philippians 4:19

#### IT INVOLVES THE WHOLE FAMILY

Faith Promise promotes giving by all members of the family. Children and young people alike are encouraged to trust God by faith to provide for missions in the local church.

## IT HAS THE PROMISE OF BLESSINGS

Since Faith Promise encourages generosity, greater blessings will follow.

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:6** - "But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

# Biblical Principles Provided

## PROVES YOUR LOVE OF GOD

**2 CORINTHIANS 8:8** – "I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love."

## **CARRIES OUT GOD'S COMMAND**

MATTHEW 28:19 – "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"

## PUTS FAITH INTO PRACTICE

**JAMES 2:26** – "...so faith without works is dead also."

**2 COR. 5:7 -** "... we walk by faith, not by sight."

#### ALLOWS GRACE TO ABOUND

**2 CORINTHIANS 8:7** – "Therefore, as ye abound in everything... see that ye abound in this grace also."

### FOLLOWS CHRIST'S EXAMPLE

**2 CORINTHIANS 8:9** – "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

# TEACHES THE BLESSINGS OF GIVING

LUKE 6:38; ACTS 20:35 – "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

#### PROVOKES OTHERS TO GIVE

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:2** – "...and your zeal hath provoked very many..."

#### HELPS US BETTER KNOW GOD

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:7** – "...for God loveth a cheerful (hilarious) giver."

## **GIVING GLORIFIES GOD**

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:13** – "Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men..."

#### DEPOSITS FRUIT TO OUR ACCOUNT

MATTHEW 6:30 – "But lay up for your-selves treasures in heaven..."

**PHILIPPIANS 4:17** – "Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account."

Let us remember, "... The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

**MATTHEW 9:37-38** 

The HARVEST is PRECIOUS to God, and the HARVEST should be PRECIOUS to US!



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