

Study Guide

Our Study: I Corinthians 16.1-3 – Supporting the Local Church

Messenger: Pastor Keith

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Objective: In 2026, we commit to the financial formation of our community to support our church's Prosperity Plan to provide for our needs and advance the work of ministry.

How Jesus's ministry was financed: Luke 8.1-3

- **Mission: Luke 8.1.** After this, Jesus **traveled** about from one town and village to another **proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God**. The **Twelve** were with him.
- **Followers: 2.** And also, some women who had been **cured of evil spirits and diseases**: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; **3a.** Joanna, the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others.
- **Support: 3b.** These women were **helping to support them out of their own means**. (NIV)

'Jesus calls those who have received His grace to actively support the church, using their resources to help carry out His mission.'

Church of Acts: Acts 2.44. Now all who believed were together and had all things in common **45.** and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. (NKJV)

- a) **United:** 'all who believed were together'
- b) **Unselfish:** 'and had all **things in common**'

'What you own is not your own, so you share everything.'

- c) **Generous:** 'and **sold** their possessions and goods and **divided** them among all, as anyone **had need**'

'Believers in the church of Acts supported the needs of their community through a united purpose, and being unselfish, they generously shared what they had to meet the needs of the ministry.'

Our Study: Supporting the Local Church – I Corinthians 16.1-2

Five key principles for supporting the local church:

1. _____: v1. Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, you must do also: *Paul ties giving to support the ministry needs of the church.*
2. _____: v2. On the first day of the week...*Paul ties giving to weekly gatherings of the church.*

3. _____: v2a. let each one of you lay something aside... *Paul ties giving to personal planning.*
4. _____: v2b. storing up as he may prosper, ... *Paul ties giving to an ongoing evaluation from what God has given them.*
5. _____: v2c. that there be no collections when I come... *Paul ties giving to being prepared beforehand; without pressure or compulsion.*

Application: You commit to support the needs of our local church:

1. Purposely: you received the grace of salvation, and you want to actively support the mission of Christ in our local church.
2. Regularly: you agree to faithfully give your tithes, offerings, and firstfruits at our weekly gatherings.
3. Personally: you accept personal responsibility and take action to support the prosperity plan of our church by setting aside your giving for the weekly gathering.
4. Proportionally: you recognize what you have comes from God and give according to how the Lord has blessed you.
5. Willingly: you freely and cheerfully give; without any pressure or impulsiveness.

Reflection: Supporting the Prosperity Plan of our Church:

1. Purposely: Do you understand the purpose of giving tithes, offerings, and firstfruits to the church?
2. Regularly: Do you faithfully and consistently give at our weekly gatherings as your rhythm of worship?
3. Personally: Do you accept personal responsibility to actively support our church family alongside our fellow followers?
4. Proportionally: Do you consider what you have comes from God and you give according to your ability to support the prosperity plan of our church?
5. Willingly: Do you give freely and cheerfully; without any pressure, coercion or impulsiveness?

‘Giving is not a debt to bear, but a blessing we joyfully share.’