

2 Corinthians 8:16-24

Administration that Glorifies God



Some general observations



2 Corinthians 8

“¹⁶ But thanks be to God, who puts the same earnestness on your behalf in the heart of Titus. ¹⁷ For he not only accepted our appeal, but being himself very earnest (**diligent**), he has gone to you of his own accord. ¹⁸ And we have sent along with him the brother whose fame in {the things of} the gospel {has spread} through all the churches; ¹⁹ and not only {this,} but he has also been appointed by the churches to travel with us in this gracious work, which is being administered by us for the glory of the Lord Himself.”

**Administration glorifies God when it is
by us
but not for us.**

Luke 16

“¹⁰ He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. ¹¹ If therefore you have not been faithful in the {use of} unrighteous mammon, who will entrust the true {riches} to you? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in {the use of} that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?”

**Our administration of money
is an indication of our readiness
to handle spiritual responsibility.**

1 Timothy

“⁵ and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, **who suppose that godliness is a means of gain**. ⁶ But godliness {actually} is a means of great gain, when accompanied by contentment.”

**When material blessings are our hope
spiritual blessing gets
marginalized.**

Matthew 6

“¹ Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven. ² When therefore you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, **that they may be honored by men**. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing ⁴ that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.”

Matthew 5:16

“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and **glorify your Father who is in heaven**.”

2 Corinthians 8

“¹⁹ . . . and {to show} our readiness, ²⁰ **taking precaution** that no one should discredit us in our administration of this generous gift; ²¹ for we have **regard for what is honorable**, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.”

Administration glorifies God when it is honorable before the world.

Common mistakes that Christian organizations make.

- ✓ Assume that people **trust** the leadership's handling of finances.
- ✓ Assume that leaders have a **right to control** all aspects of **THEIR** ministry.
- ✓ Assume that if a person is a “**spiritual leader**” they will always be **wise** in handling money.
- ✓ Assume that if God **blesses** a ministry, He is also **approving** of its financial dealings.

2 Corinthians 8

“²² And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have often tested and found diligent in many things, but now even more diligent, because of {his} great confidence in you. ²³ As for Titus, {he is} my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brethren, {they are} **messengers of the churches**, a glory to Christ. ²⁴ Therefore openly before the churches show them the proof of your love and of our reason for boasting about you.”

Administration glorifies God when it is accountable to the church.

EVANGELICAL COUNCIL FOR FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Applying a Higher Standard. Serving a Higher Purpose.



- Have an independent “board.”
- Have a compensation committee that is subject to the board.
- Provide full and comprehensive disclosure.
- Have clear policies for whistleblower protection.
- Follow the Seven Standard of ECFA.

How can I maintain financial integrity.

- ✓ Giving is a part of a larger responsibility to **manage** financial affairs.
- ✓ Questions of propriety with respect to money must be **anticipated & respected**.
- ✓ Be **intentional** (not impulsive) in decisions.
- ✓ **Let your light shine**, but not on you.
- ✓ **Be accountable to others** if you feel tempted to compromise your principles.
- ✓ Respect and follow the guidelines of **ECFA**.