

Local Church Budget



“And now, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.”
2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NIV)

As Paul writes to the Corinthian church he uses the Macedonian church as an example of generosity even in the midst of hardship. Tough financial times can often make it hard to give. The Macedonian church was only able to give generously in the midst of their poverty because they “gave themselves first of all to the Lord ...” God is not interested in our money; He is interested in our hearts. When we give ourselves to the Lord first we are making a declaration that He is the Lord of our life and that all we have is His; generosity is the outworking of that.

As fallen humans we are selfish by nature. In order to be unselfish and give generously to God and others, we need to give ourselves to Jesus first. When we do that, we will become more like Him and be better stewards of His good gifts. The Macedonians figured that out, and so can we. Let us take time each day to give ourselves to God first, asking Him to make us more like Him.

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Appeal

Our offering today supports the expenses of the South Pacific Adventist Record, a valuable tool in keeping our far-reaching church family connected.

Prayer

Dear God, we ask that You continue to bless the work of the Adventist Record and that Your Holy Spirit will grow us stronger as a church each day. Amen