

## Morning Worship

September 13, 2015

Pastor — Allan Lane

## Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Tim Waters

Piano — Marcia Hart

**As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.**

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Hymn # 204	"Glorious Is Thy Name"	Tim/People
Worship Prayer		Allan/People
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Marcia Hart
Offering Prayer		Bill Schottel
Missions Moment		<i>Rheubin's Legacy</i>
Hymn #178	"He Is Lord"	Tim/People
Hymn #411	"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"	Tim/People
Solo		Sharon Waters
Hymn #425	"He Keeps Me Singing"	Tim/People
Chorus #146	"O How He Loves You and Me"	Tim/People
Children's Worship		
Scripture Reading		Allan/People
Message		Allan Lane
Hymn #281	"Speak to My Heart"	Tim/People
Prayer Concerns		
Chorus of #564	"Make Me a Channel of Blessing"	Tim/Peo

## ***Your Gifts: His Glory***

## 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

*This year we enter the fourth decade of the Missouri Missions Offering. 2 Corinthians 9 serves as the Biblical backdrop for this year's MMO campaign. In this chapter, Paul writes about the motivation behind our giving to MMO's key ministry areas: Sharing Christ's Love, Sending Missionaries, Starting Churches, and Strengthening Churches.*

## 1. Attitudes for Giving.

Paul uses the analogy Paul of the sower. To give is really to sow, and this comes in direct opposition with how we human beings perceive giving. We tend to see giving as losing. Have you given in the offering plate and thought about giving a certain sum, and your mind starts playing tricks on you—"That could be a car payment." "That could be this week's grocery bill." "That could have been what I needed to pay for these tires that blew or these engine problems that I'm having." "That could have been my insurance payment." You feel that because you gave the money in the offering, you lost it, and it's not coming back to you at all. This is how many tend to see giving—as something that's lost.

### A) Sowing .

Yet scripture is very clear—**giving is sowing**. We all know the farming terms. What happens when you sow? You reap. You take a whole ear of corn and strip all the kernels off it, put each of them into the ground, and what happens? From one ear of corn, how many rows of corn can you plant? Each of those kernels will grow a stalk, and how many ears of corn are on each stalk? This concept of sowing is amazing. It is not something that is lost and gone forever. It actually multiplies.

This is what God says about giving. Giving is like sowing seed. Every time you give, you need to remember that you are sowing seeds and a harvest is coming. This

whole concept of sowing and reaping is built into the very fabric of life. Unless people and things give, we will all die. Think of a hanging plant in a pot without holes. If you keep giving it water without holes to drain the water away, the plant becomes waterlogged and will rot. Any plant that is not producing is dying.

### **B) Flowing**

Look at the Dead Sea itself or any body of water. Healthy water is constantly **flowing**, giving and receiving. The only water that is bad for you is the water that only receives. It becomes stagnant and has no movement.

The same thing is true with people. The happiest people are not the takers but the givers. The happiest class in our society is the middle class, not the upper class. Why? They tend to be the people who both give and receive.

This is true of spirituality. What did Jesus say? "If you want to save your life, you must lose it." If you keep your money, you will not do as well as if you give it. Proverbs 11: 24-25 tells us that one person gives freely and gains even more, and another withholds unduly and comes to poverty. In the third chapter of Malachi, God challenges His people to test Him.

### **C) Blessing**

How does God do this? Read what it says in verse 11. Put in modern terms, it means God can enable things to act in your favor. There are a thousand ways that can happen. Perhaps your car will go 150,000 miles and not 98,000 miles. God can cause your appliances to last longer or He can help you avoid costly accidents at home. God can bring people into your life whose children are the same size as yours so that they can pass down clothing to you. God can put you in the right place to get the right buys. God can provide you with a better job. God might provide you with an honest serviceman instead of a dishonest one who would cheat you. God will prosper us and bless us as we give. Galatians 6:7 says, "You reap what you sow."

What are you sowing and are you satisfied with the harvest? What kind of harvest do you want or desire? Are you sowing in order to reap that type of harvest?

## **2. Guidelines for Giving.**

If giving is sowing, **how much do we give?** Is the Biblical standard ten percent? The answer to that is yes and no. It is the Old Testament standard, but we live in New Testament times. What does the New Testament say about giving? The New Testament doesn't mention a percentage. The reason is that because they felt ten percent was too limiting. People wanted to give more than ten percent, and they gave what God placed upon their heart.

**The New Testament gives us four guides to giving: We are to give freely, we are to give generously, we are to give regularly, and we are to give cheerfully.** I like how God does this. To give cheerfully is extremely helpful. On a practical level, it helps me gauge where my faith is. How much can I give and still be grinning? It pushes you and causes you to consider if you can be happy giving more. Perhaps you are too entangled in the things of this world and God is trying to untangle the lusts of materialism. Can you trust him at a level to give a little bit more? God does this in every area of our lives. Little by little, God works on one area at a time.

This is what God does with our finances. If we give one percent, God challenges us to try one more. If we give two-and-one-half percent, God challenges us to try three. If you already tithe, try eleven percent. Test God and try it. Stretch yourself and let yourself grow in this.

## **3. Procedure for Giving.**

There are churches that encourage an annual pledge in order that the church may have a general idea of just how to budget. To my knowledge the only time we have

pledged here is when we have been in some kind of building program. There are a lot of reasons why people don't like pledges. One reason is that church leaders should have faith that the finances will be there. Some would challenge this idea because when you look at the Old Testament, God did not tell the priests to have faith that the money would come. He challenged everyone to give ten percent and because most laborers made the same amount daily the priests knew exactly what percentage the congregation would be giving. How did they then demonstrate faith? The priests were also challenged to tithe and were put on the same level as everyone else. It may not at all be scriptural that church leaders have to blindly guess what people are giving in general. All of us are called to collectively demonstrate faith by looking within ourselves, deciding before God what we are going to give, writing it down and giving it. For all of us, it takes faith to do this.

In verse 7 it says, "Each person should give what he has decided in his heart to give." The act of giving comes after the decision. We are to decide first, and then we are to give. It is not haphazard or circumstantial. It is not dependent upon whether I am in church or even what I have in my checking account this week. It is based on a prior commitment that I have made after a serious time of prayer and reflection. That sounds to some like pledging.

Giving is voluntary. It has to do with your sowing and reaping. It benefits you, not me. It is between you and God and if you give to God generously, he already says in this scripture that you will reap generously.

It really is like salvation. When you think about salvation, God never forced you to receive salvation. He never did, and He never will. He gently prods you and calls you to Himself. He has already provided the gift of salvation, but all of us at some time have to give ourselves to Him and His leadership. It is for our benefit that we do it, but we ultimately have to decide voluntarily to do this. It is like giving. God will bless you, but you have to do this because you want to and because your heart is right about it.

## **Conclusion**

The motivation for giving is because we are thankful for what God has done in our lives. If you are wondering whether you have things to be thankful for, consider this:

- \* If you have food in your refrigerator and clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of those who live in the world.
- \* If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.
- \* If you have money in the bank and in your wallet and spare change in a dish somewhere in your house, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthiest.
- \* If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment and arrest, torture or death, you are more blessed than 3 billion people in the world.
- \* If you never experience the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment or the pains of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people.
- \* If your parents are both alive and still married, you are very rare, even in the United States.
- \* If you can read, you are more blessed than 2 billion people on earth who cannot.

What is Christian giving? It is simply a challenge for us to look at what's in our wallet and then set aside, according to God's leading by prayer, a percentage for him because you are thankful for his blessing and you want to provide that blessing for others so that they may know our God.

## ***Answer God's Challenge!***

## **Another Special Offering**

It's hard to believe that the Missouri Missions Offering has now been around for four decades. Okay, so I'm getting old(er). The Lord has done amazing things in our state, thanks to you and our church's generous support of MMO. In 2014, Missouri Baptists exceeded the goal for the third straight year. The 2015 goal has been stretched to \$710,000, but we are trusting God to provide – and to receive the glory as a result of faithful support of MMO. Our church goal is \$1500, but we have had a higher goal for the past two years and have always gone over. Let's keep it up!

Sometimes special offerings can seem a burden on us financially. But we must remember that an offering is above and beyond our regular tithe to the Lord's work through our local church. Do not see giving extra as losing, for losing can also amount to winning.

Both teams that play in a Super Bowl think they will win, so both teams have special t-shirts and hats designed that declare them the victors. It costs about \$2 million to have the apparel made, which means for the losing team \$2 million goes to waste, right? Wrong. The items are usually sorted and shipped to various countries where World Vision workers distribute them to needy children and families, many of whom have never owned new clothing in their lives. So, this is a good look at how a loss can become a victory.

In 2005, when Thomas Cannon died of colon cancer in a hospital in Richmond, Virginia, he was 79. Thomas described himself a "poor man's philanthropist." When Thomas was three years old, his father died. Once Thomas' mother remarried, the family of six lived in a three-room wooden shack without running water or electricity.

As an adult, Thomas went to work with the postal service. He never made more than \$25,000 a year. Upon retirement, he and his wife lived in poverty. Yet over the course of 33 years, Thomas gave away more than \$156,000. His gifts were mainly in the form of \$1,000 checks given to people he read about in the newspaper who were going through hard times or who especially exemplified courage or kindness. A youth worker in a low-income apartment complex, a volunteer faithfully serving at an elementary school, a Vietnamese couple wanting to return home to visit, and a teenager abandoned as an infant were some of the recipients of Thomas' benevolence.

Thomas' motivation came from an incident that happened as a young man while away at Navy Signal School. When an explosion at Chicago's Port took the lives of many of his shipmates, Thomas concluded, "He had been spared to help others and be a role model." This led to his passion for giving.

Sandra Waugaman, biographer of Cannon's life comments, "Not many people would consider living in a house in a poor neighborhood without central heat, air conditioning, or a telephone, and working overtime so that they could save money to give away."

Special offerings may seem a burden, but we have been given so much and blessed in so many ways. Like Thomas Cannon, God has blessed us to help others and be a role model. Give so that we all may win.

God Bless You!

*Bro. Allan*

## **Opportunities For Service**

**Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan**

**Sunday, September 13, 2015**

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School ..... 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Bill Schottel, Ken Kirkpatrick, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Ken Nice

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, September 16**

Youth Study ..... 6:30 pm  
Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 pm  
Adult Choir ..... 7:30 pm

**Thursday, September 17**

R Team.....6:30 pm

**Sunday, September 20, 2015**

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am  
Sunday School ..... 9:15 am  
Morning Worship.....10:30 am  
Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: George Ferbert, Ken Nice, Fred Kerns, Don Sharp

Alternate: Isaac Waters

Collection day for Food Pantry.

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

**Tuesday, September 22**

SJBA Annual Meeting.....6:30 pm

**Wednesday, September 23****See You At The Pole**

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study .....6:30 pm

Adult Choir ..... 7:30 pm

**Thursday, September 24**

Food Pantry

O Team.....6:30 pm

**Up-Coming Events.....**

**All September — Missouri Missions Offering Emphasis**

**September 20 — Luncheon and Business Meeting at Noon**

— Collection Day for Food Pantry

**September 22 — SJBA Annual Meeting 7:00 pm**

**September 23 — See You At the Pole**

**September 24 — Patee Park Food Pantry Day**

**September 27 — Diversicare (Saxton Woods) 2:30 pm**

**October 2-3 — Women of Faith Simulcast, Wyatt Park Baptist**

**October 4-8 — Senior Adult Revival**

**October 5 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm**

**October 10—Beth Moore Study “Children of the Day”**

**October 17 — T4T Training, Journey Baptist Church**

**GROW Team**

Commit to **GROW!** Everyone make a contact! Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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**Sunday Nights**  
**Sunday Nights**

We will have evening service tonight at 6:30. Hope to see you there.

**Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study**

We will be meeting this Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Please make plans to

attend. Prayer and Bible Study matter!

### **See You At the Pole**

is Wednesday, September 23, at 7:00 a.m. local time.

### **Missouri Missions Offering**

We will be emphasizing Missouri Missions throughout the month of September. Prayerfully consider how God would lead you to give.

### **Coming Soon**

**Women of Faith Simulcast**  
**Wyatt Park Baptist Church**  
**10/2—7-10:30 pm**  
**10/3—9 am-5 pm**

**Beth Moore "Children of the Day"**  
**Beginning Saturday, October 10**  
**September Birthdays!**

Steven Buckley—September 20

(Please add Steven's Birthday to your calendar.)

Merle McCoy—September 12

(The family is requesting cards be sent to: Merle McCoy

402 South Avenue  
Highland, Kansas 66035)

**Luncheon and—Business Meeting**  
**Sunday, September 20, at Noon**

Please plan to attend and fellowship with us as we share a meal and also conduct the business of the church.

### **Food Pantry**

September 20, is our collection day for Patee Park Food Pantry. If you would like to donate monetarily please see Margaret Dotson. You may place your canned or boxed goods in the hallway basket any time.

**Diversicare (Saxton Woods )**  
**Nursing Home**  
**September 27, 2015 at 2:30 pm**

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

### **For the Record-**

Attendance: September 6, 2015

Sunday School.....	39
Visitors.....	1
Total.....	40
Contacts Made.....	8

Morning Worship.....	54
Children's Worship .....	6
Sunday Night .....	N/A
Wednesday Night .....	11

### **Financial Record:**

Weekly Budget.....	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received...	\$ 3,830.93

### **Offering Received by Mail:**

### **September Counting Team:**

Larry McKahan and Mike Green

### **September Van Driver:**

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747

**before 8 am** if you need a ride.

### **September Birthdays:**

05...Nellie Reynolds

12...Grant Schottel

20...Elmer Mayse

20...LoLeta Middleton

20...Tim Waters

20...Steven Buckley

21...Joyce Izer

22...Rachael Molloy

23...Kenny Kirkpatrick

29...Lindsey Rasmussen

### **September Anniversaries**

No anniversaries are recorded for the month of September. If we have missed yours in error, please let us know. Thanks.

### **Prayer Requests ...**

Pat Puckett—health issues

Linda Rails—Doris' Richardson's sister

LoLeta's Family in Doug's death

Shirley Wilson—recovery

Allen Jennings—recovery

Clyde Elder—Finally Home!!!

Nellie Reynolds—health decisions

Russ McCamy      Jesse Dunn

Grant Schottel—advanced training

Sharon Yarbrough—healing

Leona Reynolds — strength

June Fritchle—decisions for her future

Maxine and George Ferbert

Henrietta Caballero—Brigida's Sister

Austin Chalfant—Abby's nephew

Gary and Marilyn Singleton—health

Bob Barquist—cancer

Jim Winans—strength

Jozy Winans—rehabilitation

Bill and Juanita Haskins—family

Dean and Ellen Blanton

—Elvera Crow's daughter  
Louanne Laurence—Joyce's Mother  
Lester Buck Kathryn Beavers  
Margaret Dotson Dorothy Post  
Kevin Duty Opal Roberts  
Madeline Swink Bobby Griswold  
Lois Pace Susan Patten  
Debbie Sands Sue Higgins  
Brenda Burgess Judy Anderson  
Carolyn Houts Roscoe Lane  
Larry and Flora McKahan's grandsons  
-T C Thompson -Keon McKahan  
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs  
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church  
David and Deborah Grace  
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People  
Our Nation and Leaders  
Our Military Service people  
**Today's Prayer Requests ...**

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**Our Nation and our Leaders ...**

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**Five More New Families...**

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