



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

eBulletin weekly issue No. 83 • November 8 2021

www.mountainstreamchurch.com

THOSE WHO GET IT, GIVE

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



2 Corinthians 8:1-5
 We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints—and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

These Macedonian Christians could have begged off from participating in this special giving project. Everybody knew they were going through severe afflictions and extreme poverty. Nobody expected them to give. But they insisted on participating. They begged earnestly to be allowed to give (verse 4). Why were they so intent on giving? There were three profound truths that moved them to give.

Firstly, they realized that they were the recipients of God's copious grace (verses 1-2). They understood that God saving them from their sins was a profound blessing. God's salvation met the most pressing need in their lives which they were unable to meet themselves. They also recognized that temporal material hardships did not negate the magnitude of God's grace towards them.

Secondly, they considered giving a privilege (verse 4). While many today regard giving as a burden, these believers understood that it was a privilege to give

to God. Investing in God's program made them collaborators with God. God would condescend to let them participate in His marvelous project. This was a privilege they could not pass up.

Thirdly, they had first given themselves to the Lord (verse 5). Since they had given themselves to God, everything they owned belonged to Him. It was not hard for them to give of their resources to God—even if it seemed small by human standards. They would give as much as they could because it was already God's anyway.

What a glorious philosophy to live by! God has blessed us more than we can ever repay. It is a privilege to give to Him. He owns us and everything we have.

When we get these truths, it becomes easy to give.

God bless you,

Pastor James

“IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE”



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Growth Groups continue Thursday and Friday at 7 pm at the church. Sign up at the Information Center or online to attend a group convenient to you. Discussion questions are available at the Information Center or online at our website.
- Online nomination for church officers for 2022 remains open until 12 midnight Sunday Nov 14. Members, please use your emailed link to make your submissions. Check the Information Center for more information.
- Men's Breakfast Saturday at 9 am. Invite a friend and bring an item to share for breakfast if you can.
- One of our sister churches, Living Hope Baptist Church in Mt. Pocono, is hosting a Living Nativity ministry December 5 from 4 pm – 6 pm. They would love to have you participate if you'd like. Check out this link for ways you can be involved <https://livinghopepocono.com/serve-live-nativity>.
- Faith Christian School will be hosting a free seminar, "Do Not Fear: Biblical Strategies for Discipling Children's Fearful Hearts" on November 20, 9 am – 12 noon. For more info or to register, please call 610 588 3414 or email troutj@fcsliions.org.
- Bible reading plans for 2021 are available at the Information Table and on our website. Pick up a copy or download one today. Also, please read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER TUE @ 7 PM	EVENING SERVICE 1st & 3rd SUN @ 6 PM	WORSHIP SERVICE SUN @ 11 AM
Nov 9 Join us via Zoom video Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com	Nov 21 join us in-person at church.	Nov 14 In-person service & livestream. Livestreaming only on Facebook and our church's website.
GROWTH GROUPS THU & FRI @ 7 PM	YOUTH GROUP FRI @ 6:45 PM	KIDZONE SUN @ 11 AM
Nov 11 & Nov 12 in-person at church. Plan to attend one convenient to you.	Nov 12 Youth meetings are in-person at church. for ages 13 & older	Nov 14 Kidzone is available every Sunday during the morning service. for ages 4 – 12 yrs. old.

QUICK TIPS

Two ways to give your offering. Traditional with a check by mail or through our secured website online giving is now possible. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!