

April 3, 2023 Meditation

Valued

What do you value? If you were to take a quick look at all of your bank statements and credit card statements for the past several months, you would quickly see where your money goes. If you were to do this, would what you claim you value match with your spending?

Americans tend to spend quite a bit of money on convenience items. We like quick fixes. We like ready to eat foods. We like things that make our lives easier or faster, but why? What is the point of making things move faster? At some point we hit a breakneck speed, which does not benefit us.

We value our time off. We value time with our family. We value our relationships, but does how we spend our money and time show this? We claim to have faith in Christ, but do we honor Him with our time and resources? Do we support those endeavors faithfully which are sharing the Gospel?

Paul addresses the church in Corinth regarding the generosity of the Macedonian church. 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 (2 Corinthians 8:1–5).

What an encouragement! Regardless of our wealth or poverty, we can serve the Lord first, which then benefits the entire church and even beyond into the world.

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