



A Widow's Two Mites

Luke Chapter 21:1~4



Jesus saw a wealthy crowd making contributions in front of the temple's offertory box. Jesus also observed a widow contributing some money followed by the rich people. Because she was poor, she put in only two mites.

While the rich crowd put in \$100 or \$200 in the offertory box, the widow put in only two fifty-cent coins.

Jesus told his disciples, "The widow contributed much more than the wealthy crowd. While they put in a portion of their wealth, the widow gave all that she had."

Jesus knows what kind of situation we are in when we make a contribution. As such, Jesus looks at our hearts, and

And I will not be burdensome to you: for
I do not seek yours, but you.
(2 Corinthians 12:14)



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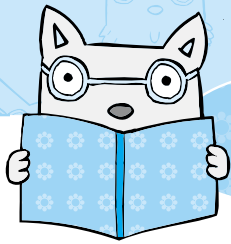


not at the amount of money we offer.

Everything we currently hold was
given by God. An offering is the manifestation of our acknowledgement that everything we
have is God's. If we don't offer tithes or make contributions of what was granted to us in the
first place, we are stealing from God. (Malachi Chapter 3:8)

Even if we offer a small amount of money with joy and happiness, God values it and He is well
pleased. God also promised us that He will give us everything we need.

*tithe: 10% of your earnings *offering: something that we give



Today's Study

Two Mites

1. Who contributed the most according to Jesus? ()

- ① Large amount of contribution by the wealthy crowd
- ② Small amount of contribution by the widow

2. What kind of heart did the widow have when she was contributing? Write your thoughts.

This is all I have.. How am
I going to live tomorrow?

This is all I have... Will
people laugh at it?





Today's Lesson

? Read below and write who you think offered the most. What is the reason for your conclusion?

Mike



Mike wears nice clothes and carries a dollar in his pocket for offering.

When Mike's mom gives him two dollars every Sunday, she tells him to contribute a dollar and spend another dollar on anything he wishes.

Fred



Fred offers ten or fifty cents occasionally.

That's because his parents give him money to contribute once in awhile.

So Faith offers out of his allowance.

? How should you contribute? Write your thoughts.

.....

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"I try to contribute every week even if it's a small amount of money."



So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity;

for God a cheerful . (2 Corinthians 9:7)



Today's Lesson



This is a story of Livingstone, a missionary, who gave his life for a mission in Africa.

There was a fund-raiser for a medical mission to Africa at a church in England. Because the Africans had various diseases, the medical mission was needed in Africa. The offertory vessel was passed around at the church and it was in the shape of a washbasin; a round, broad and flat silver vessel.

The people placed some money in the vessel when it came to them. When it came to a child, he sat on the silver vessel. People were amazed and asked the child, "Why are you sitting there?"



I don't have any money because I'm poor.
Instead of money, I'm giving myself to
God to be used for Africa's mission.



What does God want from us?

And I will not be burdensome to you; for I do not seek but

. (2 Corinthians 12:14)

Let's Find out



Two Mites

Mites are the smallest monetary units in Greece and in Rome. It is equivalent to one half of a quadran and one-eighth of a copper coin.

Two sparrows can be bought with a copper coin. This means only a half of a sparrow can be purchased with two mites.

One day's labor cost is one denarius. This is equivalent to 16 copper coins. This means one mite is equivalent to $1/128$ denarii. The laborers worked for one denarius a day including meals in those days. If a day's wage is sixty dollars in our country, one mite is equivalent to forty-seven cents. Thus, two mites can be calculated at less than a dollar.

Parents

Teacher