

WSBM440 Financial Wisdom:

Biblical Principles for Today's Challenges

Session IV: Give

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Session IV: Give

FORMAT

- Introduction
- Example
- Canadian Statistics
- Biblical Insights
- Video: Presentation
- Small Group Discussion
- Class Discussion / Summary

Session IV: Give

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Why give?
2. Where to give?
3. How much to give?

Introduction



**David Green, Founder &
CEO, Hobby Lobby**
*Net Worth: US\$15.6B (est'd
by Forbes)*

Introduction: David Green

- A preacher's son from a poor background, David Green started with a 300 s.f. store in Oklahoma City in 1970 with a \$600 loan.
- Now 970 locations, with an estimated \$7.9 billion in sales.
- He's 82, still serves as Hobby Lobby's CEO, and works six days a week.
- Stores are closed on Sundays and workers make a minimum of \$18.50 an hour as of January 2022, well above the federal minimum wage.

Introduction: David Green

Green bailed out scandal-ridden, debt-laden Oral Roberts University with a \$70 million gift in 2007; Green replaced the college's misgoverning board of trustees.



Introduction: David Green

- In 2022 he donated 90% of the company to charity, with the remaining 10% going to his family
- He is a donor to a group called “He Gets Us”, a \$100 million campaign to promote Jesus and Christianity, which ran two ads during the 2023 Super Bowl game.
- They are a major funder of the YouVersion Bible App



Introduction: David Green

- Green commits half of Hobby Lobby's total pretax earnings to a portfolio of evangelical ministries and has donated an estimated \$500 million.
- In addition, Green funded the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. at a cost of \$500 million



Introduction: David Green

- Green is humbled by the memory of his parents' putting their last dime on the collection plate.
- His father was a small-time preacher who bounced from one tiny congregation to another, eventually landing at a church of just 35 attendees
- The family subsisted on hand-me-down clothes and food donations from the congregation, going weeks without having meat to put on the table—but that didn't stop Green's mother from donating to the church.
- Green's wife Barbara: "We don't give out of our need, we give out of our surplus," she says. "David's mother gave out of her need. She would give stuff when she might not have something to replace that with, yet she stepped out in faith."

Give: Canadian Statistics



FINANCIAL FACELIFT (02/23/24)

“How long can Dennis, 66, and Sylvie, 61, stay in their home?”

- The People: Dennis, 65, Sylvie, 61, and two adult children, 23 and 27.
- The Problem: If Dennis retires at 70, can they afford to stay in their home for 15 to 20 years and still have \$100,000 a year after tax to spend?
- Monthly net income: \$9,665.
- Assets: Cash in bank \$175,000; his RRSP \$40,000; her RRSP \$40,000; residence \$2,100,000; rental property \$1,100,000. Total: \$3,455,000
- Liabilities: Residence mortgage \$603,000; rental mortgage \$605,000, both 6.1% variable. Total: \$1,208,000.
- Net Worth: \$2,247,000

Give: Canadian Statistics

Monthly outlays, residence: Mortgage \$4,270; property tax \$485; water, sewer, garbage \$150; home insurance \$230; electricity \$110; heating \$180; maintenance \$290; garden \$215; car insurance \$100; fuel \$325; oil, maintenance \$30; parking \$30; groceries \$1,000; clothing \$75; gifts and charity \$100; vacation, travel \$500; dining, drinks, entertainment \$1,350; personal care \$75; club memberships \$50; sports, hobbies \$50; subscriptions \$55; other personal \$200; doctors, dentists \$150; drugs supplements \$200; health, dental insurance \$55; phones, TV, internet \$300.

Total: \$10,575. Income of \$9,665 = Deficit \$910.



Give: Canadian Statistics

- In Canada, 18.4% of residents gave to charities in 2022 based on the information on their filed tax returns.
- This shows a decrease from 20.5% in 2016.
- The pandemic has also affected the number of people volunteering.

Give: Canadian Statistics

- In 2022, 55.1% of charities in Canada said they had fewer volunteers than before the pandemic. 22.4% of the charities said they had significantly fewer volunteers and 32.7% said they had seen a moderate decrease in the number of volunteers.
- As a result, over half (50.8%) of charities are concerned about staff burnout as they try to meet the increased demands.

Give: Canadian Statistics

- Since the COVID-19 pandemic, 40.3% of Canadian charities have experienced more demand for their services and 57.3% have not been able to meet the demand.
- The pandemic also affected the funds raised by charitable organizations in Canada, with 31.5% saying they raised fewer funds in 2022.

Give: Canadian Statistics

- About 5 to 10% of churchgoers tithe regularly.
- Of those who do tithe, 77% give more than the 10% standard
- Frequency of giving: 5.25% weekly, 13.63% monthly & 81.12% annually / intermittently

Give: Biblical Insights

Who is perhaps the best-known giver in the New Testament?

Give: Biblical Insights



Give: Biblical Insights

The lesson of the widow's mite or the widow's offering is presented in the Synoptic Gospels, in which Jesus is teaching at the Temple in Jerusalem. The Gospel of Mark specifies that two mites (Greek lepta) are together worth a quadrans, the smallest Roman coin. A lepton was the smallest and least valuable coin in circulation in Judea, worth about six minutes of an average daily wage.



Give: Biblical Insights

The Widow's Two Mites

1 And He [Jesus] looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, **2** and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. **3** So He said, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; **4** for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.”

Luke 21:1-4

Give: Biblical Insights

Lessons From The Widow's Two Mites:

1. Our giving is measured by the sacrifice, not the sum
2. Appearances can be deceiving
3. Giving reflects the faith behind it
4. Everyone is equal in God's eyes

Give: Biblical Insights

Key biblical passages:

- *Matthew 6:19-24*
- *Matthew 13: 44-46*
- *1 Corinthians 16:2*
- *2 Corinthians 8:9-11*

Give: Biblical Insights

19 “Don’t collect for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. **20** But collect for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Give: Biblical Insights

22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. **23** But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light within you is darkness—how deep is that darkness! **24** “No one can be a slave of two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot be slaves of God and of money.”

Matthew 6: 19 – 24

Give: Biblical Insights

44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure, buried in a field, that a man found and reburied. Then in his joy he goes and sells everything he has and buys that field. **45** “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. **46** When he found one priceless[a] pearl, he went and sold everything he had, and bought it.”

Matthew 13: 44 – 46

Give: Biblical Insights

9 “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ: Though He was rich, for your sake He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich. **10** Now I am giving an opinion on this because it is profitable for you, who a year ago began not only to do something but also to desire it. **11** But now finish the task as well, that just as there was eagerness to desire it, so there may also be a completion from what you have.”

2 Corinthians 8: 9 – 11

Give: Biblical Insights

2 “On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he prospers, so that no collections will need to be made when I come.”

1 Corinthians 16:2

Session IV: Questions for Discussion

1. What does “money is a reflection of my heart” mean to you?
2. What emotional response do you experience when giving?
3. What might it take to live more generously?
4. In what ways do you think giving can break the power of money?

Session IV: Give

“Private” Assignment:

Recognizing and convicted that God wants me to be a good steward of His resources and use them for His purposes, I make the following giving pledge for the coming year.

What I should give (proportionate to income): \$ _____

What I could give by making a sacrifice in the following area: \$ _____

What I would give if God blessed me with this amount: \$ _____

I am convicted to give: \$ _____



SESSION IV: GIVE

Conclusion & Objectives:

1. Why give?
2. Where to give?
3. How much to give?