



# Christ Church St Ives MP3 Sermon Library Sermon Outline



Date: 20-Mar-2016

Speaker: Nathan Walter

Service: 6.45pm

Bible References: 2Co 8:1-24

Series: Where your treasure is: Faith, Wealth, Generosity (645)

Title of talk: On Giving to the Poor

16-09-02b

## Notes from the Talk

### **A test of sincerity**

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

### **A call to consistency**

2 Corinthians 8:10-15

### **A plan for integrity**

2 Corinthians 8:16-24

## Resources

**Money Counts** – How to handle money in your heart and with your hands. Graham Beynon.

**Neither Poverty Nor Riches** – a biblical theology of possessions. Craig Blomberg.

**Gospel Patrons** – people whose generosity changed the world. John Rinehart.

**Cash Values** – Five topical studies for individuals and small groups. Tony Payne.

## A (not exhaustive) list of ideas for giving to the poor ... and especially the Christian poor

*Here are some of the ways some members of Christ Church give:*

- Support an aid organization. E.g., Anglicare, Compassion, TEAR Australia, Mission Australia, World Vision, Archbishop's Relief Funds, Hamlin Fistula ...
- (Some of these care for the poor in general. Others focus on caring for the poor both physically and spiritually. We can sometimes fear the inefficiency of these welfare organizations, but we must trust God!)
- Take on the support of a sponsor child
  - Give to Christian school scholarship funds, so support people who want a Christian education for their children but can't afford the fees
  - Pay off the debts of a Christian friend who can't (e.g., rent, mortgage, utility bills, car maintenance, legal fees etc.)
  - Offer a spare car or holiday house for use by a missionary family on home assignment, or buy them some time in accommodation for a holiday
  - Show generous hospitality or pay for small items of generosity to those in need
  - If you are organizing an event, make it easy for someone less well-off to be a part of
  - Regularly put aside a sum of money each year so that you have capacity to give when an 'emergency' issue arises - you'll find plenty of opportunity if you're looking
  - Support students who are training full-time in Christian ministry
  - Serve people with your time and labor - help people move house etc.
  - Cook meals for our HOAMworks team to give to people in crisis situations; serve on our HOAMworks giving lifts, doing shopping for people etc.
  - Volunteer to serve in an aid project. E.g., work on a soup kitchen, deliver meals, Martin Place Ministry (an initiative from members of 6.45)
  - Look for local initiatives - e.g., providing items needed for Ku-Ring-Gai Council's Refugee Welcome Packs
  - Give healthy food to a displaced person living on the street, or take them with you to buy some food
  - Give away clothes or second-hand furniture, books, equipment etc.
  - Host events for people who may struggle to afford it (e.g., a child's birthday party)
  - Connect unemployed people with others who may be able to help provide opportunities for work
  - Give Christmas cards that support aid organizations
  - Collect postage stamps to put in the box in the church bookstore, that can then be sold to give money to the Samaritan's Purse
  - Make items of clothing/quilts etc. that can be used for disaster relief efforts, or that can be turned into money
  - As a Growth Group, financially support a poorer church; if possible, grow a real gospel partnership by building relationships through serving and visiting physically rather than just sending money

***A resource for 'Where Your Treasure Is', from 2 Corinthians 8-9***