



GIVING AT GRACE

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Gospel Grace

“You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich...See that you also excel in the grace of giving” (2 Cor 8: 7, 9)

Here at Grace Community Church we have discovered freedom in the gospel of Jesus. One area that the good news changes is our attitude to possessions and wealth. God is the one who “richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.” (1 Timothy 6:17). He also shows us that “It is more blessed to give than receive” (Acts 20:35).

God’s grace frees us from trying to find our ultimate value, security or purpose in possessions or money. Because of his amazing sacrificial love, giving us everything at such cost to himself, a new way of thinking enters our hearts. Jesus shows us that we ‘find ourselves’ by ‘losing ourselves’; those who give, receive – to give more (2 Cor 9:11).

Radically Different

A Christian church should be a place where people see different values at work. We promote a radically generous commitment of time, money, and relationships to the needy, the poor and the alienated.

10% of the church’s gross income is given away. Three quarters to those in other countries, the remainder to help in the UK. Church members regularly say where they would like these funds to go to help needy people.

We also support the spread of the Christian good news in our own community. Some of these needs are personal and people are helped discretely. Other needs are more obvious and the church uses the resources God’s people provide to serve the community.

The church’s ministries that support the community are entirely self-supported. It is as Christians are generous in their giving that these can be carried forward.

How You Can Take Part Now

The church encourages it’s members to give to God’s work through the church. An offering box is discretely placed in the foyer for that purpose. For others, especially those paid monthly, the most helpful way to give has proven to be by setting up a standing order from your bank account.

As ‘good stewards’ it is sensible, if you are a UK tax payer, to sign a ‘Gift Aid’ declaration form so that tax can be reclaimed on your giving at no extra cost to you. Please pick up the leaflet entitled ‘Gift Aid Information’.

The church is regulated by The Charities Commission. One part of this is the production, external confirmation and public filing of annual publicly certified accounts of its financial transactions. These are available on request from Chris Almond.

The Future

A commitment to generosity will mean that, as followers of Christ, we will regularly review our giving so that it reflects God’s grace to us.

The church has also produced a leaflet about giving through your Will (‘Legacies & Wills’). This means that gospel work in the future will benefit from thoughtful planning, reflecting the radical generosity that the gospel encourages.

If you want advice about this, see one of the deacons, or pick up the leaflet at the information desk in the foyer.