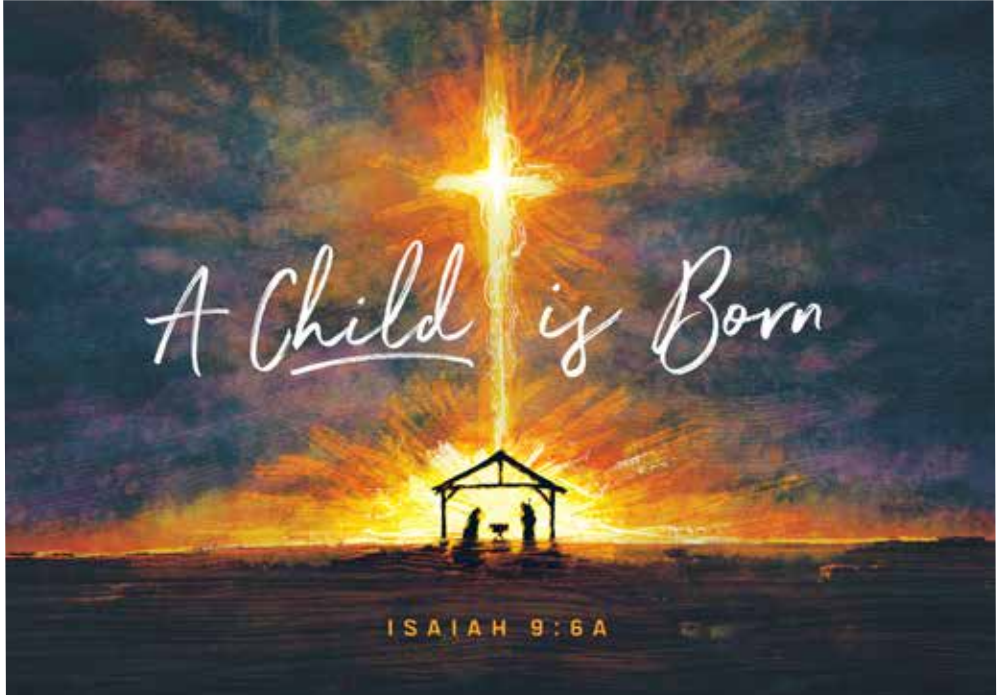


For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6 NKJV



**Berean Bible Church**

Service of  
**Worship & Communion**

Sunday, 4 December, 2016

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Sunday School 9:30am  
Morning Worship - 10:40am | Evening Service - 6:00pm  
Midweek Service (Wednesday) - 7:30pm  
Hothersal Turning, St. Michael | Rev. Ronald Trotman - Pastor  
Tel: 426-4707 | 571-4259  
pastor@bereanbarbados.org | www.bereanbarbados.org

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

# The Blessedness of Giving

by Brian Nixon

One of the delights of Christmas is the willingness to give to others. Jesus Himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). With this special season at hand, here are six Biblical guidelines for giving. Use these guidelines as you find a person, place, organization, or ministry to give of your time and resources:

**Give Generously.** In Deuteronomy 15:10, Moses writes, “Give generously to him and so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.” The word used here for “give” is “*nathan*.” It carries the idea of giving generously - out of abundance.

**Give As You Are Able.** Deuteronomy 16:17 states, “Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which He has given you.” This command was delivered during a festival - The Feast of Tabernacles. And like the ancient festivals, our modern holidays are also times for giving - as we are able. The word for “able” is “*yad*”. It carries the idea of an open hand. We give from what God has given us.

**Give Anonymously** - if you are able. Jesus said, “But when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing so that your giving will be in secret” (Matt. 6:3). Giving for the sake of giving should be the driving factor in helping others, not giving to get something in return - recognition or otherwise. Give to bless the Lord and the person or organization, not to bolster your reputation or renown. If anonymity is not feasible, do so humbly, giving God the glory.

**Give To Those Who Ask.** Jesus said, “Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back” (Luke 6:30). This is a tough saying. It does not mean that we are to give every time someone asks - such as a drug addict asking for money to buy drugs. No, the principle is that when there is a need - and we are directed by the Holy Spirit to give - we must give. No

questions asked. Give to those who are in need according to what the Lord has given you to give.

**Do Not Give Grudgingly, But Lovingly.** The Apostle Paul writes, “So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor.9:7-8). Notice the key words: “purposed,” “grudgingly,” and “cheerful.” In essence, Paul is telling the Christian that he or she must give, not under compulsion, but with a cheerful heart (the Greek word for “cheerful” is “*hilaros*”; a merry or joyful disposition). Christians must purpose to give to others instead of JUST using our money for self (the Greek word for “purpose” is “*proaireomai*.” It means to choose oneself before another person or thing).

**Blessing Accompanies Giving.** There are many reasons to give, but the Bible is clear that, when we give, God will bless us (not necessary financially as some report, but spiritually, emotionally, and socially - the community will benefit). As Jesus stated at the beginning of this article, we are blessed when we give (happy, joyful). Here are two other verses that tie giving to blessing: 2 Cor. 9:10 and Luke 6:38. **“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.”** **“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over...”**

*A Blessed Season to All!*



*In Memory*



**At this Christmas season we remember the birth of our Lord.**

If you would like to remember in a tangible way your deceased loved one, bring a poinsettia plant to the church and place it along the edge of the platform. You may attach a card saying in whose memory the plant is being placed. The plant will remain for the duration of the Christmas season and after the Christmas morning service it can be removed.

# Order of Service

Ministry of Music - Choir

Invocation

Hymn 93

Hymn 96

Hymn 121

1st Scripture Reading: Matt 1:18-25

Hymn 106

Prayer

Notices - Offering

Ministry of Music - Choir

Hymn 94

Sermon - Rev. Ronald Trotman

Hymn

Distribution of Elements

Special Offering

2nd Scripture Reading

Ministry of Music - Bro. R. Bennett

Benediction - Choir



## PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

- Those less fortunate during the Christmas season
- Our students taking exams
- Our Outreach Ministries
- Our Youth Department
- The Sick and Shut-ins
- The work of the Gideons, CEF, ISCF and The Bible Society
- The Persecuted Church
- A Blessed 2017

## Join US this evening at 6pm for an engaging Bible Study



Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11 NIV

## December Birthdays

3rd - Julia Lowe

4th - Joan Aimey

11th - Florence Gibbs

- Chrystolene Harewood

- Dana Williams

14th - Keith Bayley

- Brigitte James

16th - Eileen Yarde

20th - Maureen Branch

21st - Winston Clarke

- Carol Maycock

24th - Maureen Burnett

- Steve Vaughn

25th - Stephen Peniston

27th - Leandre Brathwaite

- Ricardo Licorish

28th - Hermes Nurse

29th - Dolores Codrington

31st - Muriel Clarke-Pilgrim

### January

1st - Winston Gibbs

4th - Harold Lucas

5th - Bertram Hoyte

## Anniversaries

7th - Bernadette & Clarence Holder

31st - Beverley & Jefferson Wason