



Giving Our Gift

II Corinthians 8:5

Our foundation is laid

*We are **in position** to receive*

***What** do we do?*

*And **where** do we start?*

.....

1st – Gifts don't qualify us

I Corinthians 1:4-7, "I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ"

*They **didn't lack** any gift...*

*Yet their **lives were a mess!***

.....

*2/7 we asked, "**What do we do with them?**"*

*Some answered, "**Use them**"*

*Partially right – **How and Why?***

.....

*Too many want to use them **just to demonstrate** that they have them*

*If they are "**of**" God...*

*We receive **Him** with the gift...*

*And they are **still His gifts***

*So **how and why** did **He** use them?*

*The answers will apply to **All His gifts***

*He wants us to know this **before**
we receive them*

.....

*God gave His **greatest gift** first*

–

Himself!

II Corinthians 8:5, “they first
gave themselves to the Lord, and
then to us by the will of God.”

So must we...

*First give our **greatest gift** –
ourselves*

Back to the Giver...

Mark 12:17, “Render to Caesar
the things that are Caesar’s, and
to God the things that are God’s.”

Then to God’s people (II Cor.8:5)

.....

*How? **Like God** did...*

*With **covenant** level
commitment*

Romans 11:29, “For the gifts
and the calling of God are
irrevocable.”

So must ours be

*We **cannot** give ourselves to each
other...*

Then take ourselves back

God doesn’t, and we cannot...

“In His name”

*We are **not authorized** to
receive and use His gifts –*

Other than “in His name.”

.....

*Jesus said, “It is more blessed to
give than to receive.”*

God blesses by giving Himself...

Proverbs 18:16, “A man’s gift
makes room for him”

Not the possession of it...

The giving of it.

Giving our gift clears the way

.....

***How** did He give His gifts? –
Personally*

***Why?** To bless those He gave
them to*

***If** we give ourselves to each other
in Him...*

*The power of **His life** will be
available through us*