



# THE LOCAL CHURCH'S MONEY

seeking Jesus' will

# LUKE 8:1-3

- Jesus' work requires money in order to function successfully
- Money has inherent dangers if it's allowed to steer our decisions (1 Timothy 6:10)
- Both are true of Jesus' work through the church today

# A FREEWILL OFFERING

- Churches raised money through voluntary gifts from its own members (Acts 4:36-37, 2 Cor. 8:1-2)
- Law of Moses parallel
  - Not census taxes (Ex. 30:11-16)
  - Not tithe (Num. 18:21-24)
  - But “freewill offering” (Ex. 35:4-5, 29)

# A FREEWILL OFFERING

- What does this mean for our giving?
  - It is fulfilled “in house,” not by public solicitation
  - It is motivated by generosity, not obligation (2 Cor. 8:4-5)

# LOCAL CHURCH'S WORK

- Helping needy Christians
  - Examples: Acts 4:34-35, 11:27-30
  - Sometimes in emergency
  - Sometimes ongoing needs (Acts 6:1)
- Always saints helping saints

Romans 15:25-26

1 Corinthians 16:1

2 Corinthians 8:4, 9:1,12

# LOCAL CHURCH'S WORK

- Supporting teaching, preaching, edification
  - Commanded: 1 Corinthians 9:3-14, 1 Tim. 5:17-18
  - Example: Philippians 4:15-18

# LOCAL CHURCH'S WORK

- Functional needs – decisions and judgments must be made
  - Is it within the realm of the church's work?
  - What's a priority and what's not?
  - Pray for wisdom and stand united
- Common principle: an organization's purpose limits its work
  - Same applies to the church