

Message Notes

Taking Care of Business

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – Potential Pitfalls in Fundraising

1. Manipulation in order to achieve a “goal”
2. Hidden motives on the part of the leadership
3. No real clear goals
4. Lack of Integrity

How Paul has so far tried to avoid these so far Manipulation - 2 Corinthians 8:7

Hidden Motives - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9

Clarity - 2 Corinthians 8:13-14

Today's Message ~ Taking Care of Business the Right Way: Integrity 2 Corinthians 8:16-24

A faithful person put in charge

2 Corinthians 8:16-17

2 Corinthians 7:5-7

Another person involved

2 Corinthians 8:18-19

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

The rationale for all this administration

2 Corinthians 8:20-21

Acts 24:14-16

Titus 2:6-8

Another person!

2 Corinthians 8:22-23

Deuteronomy 19:15

Matthew 18:16

Matthew 26:59-61

2 Corinthians 13:1

The result – a commendation of leaders to trust and love

2 Corinthians 8:24

Gospel Application – “What’s actually going on inside of us so that integrity fails?”

2 Corinthians 8:16-24

¹⁶I thank God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. ¹⁷For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative. ¹⁸And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. ¹⁹What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. ²⁰We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. ²¹For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men. ²²In addition we are sending with them our brother who has often proved to us in many ways that he is zealous, and now even more so because of his great confidence in you. ²³As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ. ²⁴Therefore show these men the proof of your love and the reason for our pride in you, so that the churches can see it.

2 Corinthians 7:5-7

⁵For when we came into Macedonia, this body of ours had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn – conflicts on the outside, fears within. ⁶But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, ⁷and not only by his coming but also by the comfort you had given him. He told us about your longing for me, your deep sorrow, your ardent concern for me, so that my joy was greater than ever.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: ¹⁰If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! ¹¹Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹²Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Acts 24:16

¹⁶So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.

Titus 2:6-8

⁶Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. ⁷In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness ⁸and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Deuteronomy 19:15

One witness is not enough to convict a man accused of any crime or offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

Matthew 18:16

But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’

Matthew 26:59-61

⁵⁹The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹and declared, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’”

2 Corinthians 13:1

This will be my third visit to you. “Every matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.”











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IN COLOR



A pile of old, dark coins, possibly pennies, is shown against a black background. The coins are scattered and overlapping, with some showing signs of wear and discoloration. Overlaid on the coins is the text "The Grace of Giving" in a white, elegant, cursive script. The text is centered and flows across the top and middle of the coin pile.

*The Grace
of
Giving*

Common Fundraising Errors:



Common Fundraising Errors: Manipulation



Common Fundraising Errors: Hidden motives



Common Fundraising Errors: No real clear goals



Common Fundraising Errors: Lack of Integrity



What Paul did to avoid these errors:

What Paul did to avoid these errors:
Manipulation

What Paul did to avoid these errors: **Manipulation**

2 Corinthians 8:7

But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

What Paul did to avoid these errors:
Hidden motives

What Paul did to avoid these errors: Hidden motives

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

⁸I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

What Paul did to avoid these errors:

No real clear goals

What Paul did to avoid these errors: **No real clear goals**

2 Corinthians 8:13-14

¹³Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality.

¹⁴At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need.

What Paul did to avoid these errors:
Lack of Integrity

Today's Message:

Taking Care of Business
The Right Way:
Integrity

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¹⁸And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel.

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The rationale for all this administration

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2 Corinthians 8:20-21

²⁰We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. ²¹For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.

The rationale for all this administration

Acts 24:14-16

¹⁴However, I admit that I worship the God of our fathers as a follower of the Way, which they call a sect. I believe everything that agrees with the Law and that is written in the Prophets, ¹⁵and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. ¹⁶So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.

The rationale for all this administration

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Gospel Application

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What goes wrong when we are not people of integrity?

