

Empire Church of the Brethren

Sunday Service Sermons

09 November 2025

Giving in the name of Jesus "The Christ".

Text: "But Peter said, I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Acts 3:6

In 1975 Daniel R. Grant, president of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, wrote of an unusual check received at OBU.

The Kresge Foundation had given a challenge grant to the university of fifty thousand dollars.

If the university could match that amount dollar for dollar, the foundation would award OBU fifty thousand dollars to use in the renovation of their science building.

Upon meeting the challenge, Dr. Grant wrote the Kresge Foundation.

In return OBU received the check for fifty thousand dollars.

But it was the hand written endorsement that accompanied the signature of Stanley S. Kresge that Dr. Grant could not forget.

It read, "In the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ."

Mr. Kresge wanted those who received gifts from his foundation to know that he was gifting "in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ."

When we read this, we immediately can think of the experience of Peter and John in the temple when the lame man was healed.

Peter gave healing to that man in Jesus' name.

His answer in response to the plea for a gift was a classic: "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I you: in the name of Jesus Christ, of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

It is interesting to note that Peter did not give the man what he requested.

He gave him what he needed.

What he did give was of more value, and what he gave was in the name of Jesus.

As we look at our church budget and our response in Christian stewardship, it is most significant that we give in the name of Jesus.

When you give in the name of Jesus, there is response.

An obvious need.

The beggar's need was obvious, he was crippled.

He made a request, and Peter and John made a response.

The church also has an obvious need.

A building needs to be provided and maintained.

Salaries of church staff persons need to be met.

Programs and ministries must be funded.

The church has a obvious need for money.

What will be your response to that need?

Response of love and gratitude.

By giving in the name of Jesus our response is one of love and gratitude.

Because they had Christ in their hearts, Peter and John had compassion on the man.

Perhaps you have seen the bumper sticker that says, "honk if you love Jesus!"

But one showed up recently that expresses far better the love and gratitude one has for Jesus.

This bumper sticker reads, "If you love Jesus, tithe!"

Anybody can honk!"

When you give in the name of Jesus, there is a resource.

The resource we have.
Peter gave to the crippled beggar from the resource he had, the power of God in Jesus Christ.
Utilizing the resource we have.
Notice that Peter did not give from what he did not have.
He gave from what he did have.
He utilized the resource he had.
And that is the only way we can ever give to God.
A part of all you earn is yours to give.
It should not be less than a tenth and should be given first.
When you give in the name of Jesus, there is a reward.
Something wonderful can be done in the name of Jesus.
The crippled man was healed.
In joy he ran and jumped as he went into the temple.
Something wonderful had been done in the name of Jesus.
Through Christian giving something wonderful can be done in the name of Jesus.
It will express itself through witness of Christ, teaching about Christ, doing ministry in the name of Christ, and engaging in mission for the sake of Christ.
Something wonderful that benefits and blesses many people can be done in the name of Jesus.
You can have the joy of being a part of it.
When something wonderful is done in the name of Jesus, you can have the joy of being a part of it if you have practiced Christian stewardship.
We sometimes think of the reward only in material terms.
It is much more than that.
There is a spiritual joy and a sense of partnership in ministry that is very rewarding.
Several years ago an unemployed electrician sued his church, claiming that he did not get his money's worth when he tithed.
He wanted to recover the donations he had made to the church in response to the pastor's promise that blessings, benefits, and rewards would come to the person who gave 10 percent of his or her money to the church.
The man said that after three years he had not received blessings, benefits, or rewards.
A San Antonio businessman said in the letter that accompanied the check that he sympathized with anyone who gives money to the church and sits back expecting God to immediately hand it back to him, with interest, by some specific act.
He went on to say that he had never tried to make a deal like that with God.
He and his wife had tithed for thirty-six years and had found that God honors those who honor him.
When you give in the name of Jesus, it is a great and wonderful experience.
Your life will be greatly enriched by it.
Others will benefit from it.
It is part of bringing God's Kingdom to earth as it is in heaven.
We participate with God in His coming Among the people.
To bless and to heal.
We give what we can cheerfully and with a generous heart.
This is continuing the work of Jesus!