

Regarding sins of omission—how does anyone know that they aren't committing sins of omission? How do we fix every child in: slavery, starvation, homeless and so on? While we give to help, how do we know how much is acceptable to God? We are wealthy compared to third world countries. Do we give until we are living in a tent and walking rather than driving a car? How much is enough?

The bible describes sins of ignorance (Lev. 4:2) and sins of omission (Jas 4:17). Job believed it was important for him and his family to keep short accounts with God. He offered sacrifices for his children in case they had sinned. The bible says Job “rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of [all his children]: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually (Jb 1:5).”

The Holy Spirit makes himself known to the believer. If one is committing a sin, He will reveal it to him (Jn 14:26).

Jesus said: For you have the poor with you always (Mt 26:11). Though an individual cannot save everyone, he should not refrain from doing *something* to show concern for the less fortunate.

When a child gives his father a gift on Father’s Day, the funds to buy the gift come from the father, himself—still, he still enjoys getting a gift from his child. Though God does not *need* our money--He owns the cattle on a thousand hills after all (Ps 50:10); He wants to know that his children care about others in need (Deut 14:28, 29, 1 Ti 5:3-16).

God multiplies gifts that a believer gives to Him.

Regarding 2 Corinthians 9:10¹, J. Vernon McGee wrote:

...Paul gives the illustration of the farmer who doesn’t mind going out to scatter bushel after bushel of seed, because he believes that he will get an abundant harvest. It is God who multiplies the seed of the farmer. It is God who will multiply everything that you do for Him. So don’t be afraid to give to the Lord’s work.

I had an experience once when I had to encourage a young man not to give. He had been recently saved, and he was actually giving so much that he was not keeping enough for his own family. The Bible says that we are worse than the heathen if we do not take care of our own family (see 1 Tim. 5:8). I pointed this out to him and told him that he also needed to care for the necessities of his family, and after that he should give generously to the Lord. God does not want us to be extremists even in this matter of giving. We need to be balanced. We need good, sound, common sense and good, consecrated judgment.²

God loves a *cheerful* giver (2 Co 9:7). An individual can give not only his money but his: time, service and hospitality, etc.

Jesus said: Because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold (Mt 24:11–12). The Christian must remain salt and light in an ever-darkening world (Mt 5:13-16).

¹ Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness [2 Cor. 9:9–10].

² McGee, J. V. (1991). Thru the Bible commentary: The Epistles (2 Corinthians) (electronic ed., Vol. 45, p. 114). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Sharing the gospel with a lost is the best way to change individuals and communities for the better (Mk 16:15).