



# Biblical Foundations

## God's Needs

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*The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.*

— Acts 17:24–25 (NIV)

God created all things. He governs all things, oversees all things, and is the source of every good thing. God does not need anything from anyone. He is completely self-sufficient.

Why, then, would God invite His people to contribute to His work? It isn't that He needs our money. It already belongs to Him. What can we give Him that isn't already His? How could God possibly benefit from our contributions?

When I was a child, I enjoyed helping my mom in the kitchen. Whether I was stirring the sauce, cooking the spaghetti, or helping to prepare a batch of bread and butter pickles, I found great joy in participating in that process.

Mom did not need my help. (I probably created more work for her rather than less.) But she valued it because it allowed us to engage with one another. We were able to do something meaningful together and enjoyed the outcome. It was a blessing to Mom and a blessing to me at the same time. And it made me a better person in many ways.

God does not need our help. But He appreciates our participation because it allows us to engage with Him. God invites us to do meaningful things together, and we all enjoy the outcome. It makes God happy. It makes us happy.

So how does God benefit from our contribution? What does He receive that isn't already His? He receives our engagement. He receives our hearts. He receives our love. God does not need anything, but He loves it when we give back to Him. That is one way we can show Him our love.