



Samuel 16:7b tells us, *"...For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."*

How does it really look when we put our heart into something? Is doing so not our purest form of self-expression? There are various examples in Scripture where we see Jesus providing commentary on the "state of the heart" from His life and teachings:

- The widow's 2 copper coins for the collection box
- The centurion's "say the word, and my servant will be healed."
- The Syrophoenician woman blessed to receive the table scraps of Grace
- Mary and her lavish spending of nard on the Lord's feet

You might be thinking, "Yes, but what do these examples have to do with giving a mere dollar a week to Mission 1-1-1? It is this: it all depends on the "state of the heart" of the giver. When it is the heart that is laid at the feet of the Lord and Savior, all is well. And as always, lest we congratulate ourselves on our faith and faithfulness, the Lord has the final word: *"...for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."* Philippians 2:13