

What does it mean to give as you “may prosper”? I Cor. 16:2

- **What does prosper mean?**
 - “prosper” = *“to help on one’s way”*
 - Vine’s = *“the continuous tense suggests the successive circumstances of varying prosperity as week follows week”*
 - **III John 2** – This prosperity comes from the Lord and can be petitioned
 - **III John 3-4** – This full aspect of prosperity can only be applied to those who are **faithfully obedient**

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- **In what ways have we been “prospered”?**
 - **Physical prosperity – Psm. 68:19; I Tim. 6:17**
 - **Health of body and mind**
 - **Emotional and physical relationships**
 - **Ability to earn money by which food, clothing, and shelter come**
 - **Relative luxury and abundance**
 - **Living in a technologically advanced society**
 - **Ever present means of appealing to God on behalf of some physical malady or circumstance**

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- **In what ways have we been “prospered”?**
 - **Spiritual prosperity – Psm. 1:1-3**
 - **Forgiveness of sins – I Cor. 6:11**
 - **Adoption into God’s family – Eph. 2:19**
 - **Hope of the resurrection – I Pet. 1:3**
 - **Complete knowledge of how to please Him – II Pet. 1:3**
 - **Avenue to enter the Most Holy Place by way of prayer – Heb. 10:19-22, 4:14-16**
 - **Means of dealing with trials and temptations – I Cor. 10:13**

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- **Because we have been prospered in these ways, we should always be mindful of the attitude behind our giving –**
 - **II Cor. 9:1-8 – willingness, forethought, not with grudging obligation, cheerfully**
 - **II Cor. 8:1-5, 12 – Considering the needs of the many, giving first to the Lord, according to what one has**
 - **I Chr. 29:6-18 – Give with rejoicing, all things belong to the Lord**