

*Where there is a shared resource, there  
must also, of necessity,  
be a shared responsibility*

September 19

Several years ago our church purchased a building for a new congregation we had started in Russia. Situated approximately 500 miles due northeast of Moscow, the winter weather could become very harsh with the cold northern winds whipping up snow in already below freezing temperatures. This newly purchased building had an oil burning heating system. The oil was drawn through a pipeline from a tank which also supplied other surrounding buildings. Although this shared resource was of great benefit to us, without which the congregation could not occupy the building, it was not free. As one can imagine, this shared resource came with a shared responsibility to pay for the oil we used, along with a fee to maintain the system. So it is with each person receiving benefit from the Kingdom of God and/or the local church...we each share the responsibility to help fund, staff, and support the work of God, seeing that our souls have been saved by His providential grace. Are you doing your part?

*Prayer for Today*

God I want to do my part. Thank You for sending Jesus to save my soul and also for sending others along the way to teach me and share life with me. Help me to be a responsible person who does my part in Jesus' Name.

*Scriptures for Today*

2 Corinthians 8:11-15 But now you also must complete the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to desire it, so there also may be a completion out of what you have. For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have. For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack-that there may be equality. As it is written, "He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack." (NKJV)