



**“REMEMBER THE
POOR”**



**What does the Bible say about
Christians practicing charity?**

FIRST, SOME BIBLE PRECEDENTS

- “So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10);
- “They only asked us to remember the poor — the very thing I also was eager to do” (Galatians 2:10);
- “For the poor you shall always have with you...” (Matthew 26:10-11) — Not an indictment of the impoverished, but an affirmation that we will always need to help them;
- “For the poor will never cease to be in your land; therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy and poor in your land’” (Deut. 15:9-11).



CONGREGATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

There is no biblical precedent for *corporate* benevolence for unbelievers, but there is abundant scriptural evidence that the church should take care of other Christians (Acts 4:32–35, 11:29, 2:44–45, 6:1–8, 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2 Corinthians 8:4, 9:1, Romans 15:25–26, 1 Timothy 5:3–10). From widows, to the poor, to those affected by natural calamity, the church has many opportunities to help its own. Being a part of Christ's family has many blessings (Mk. 10:30).

WHAT ABOUT INDIVIDUAL CHARITY?

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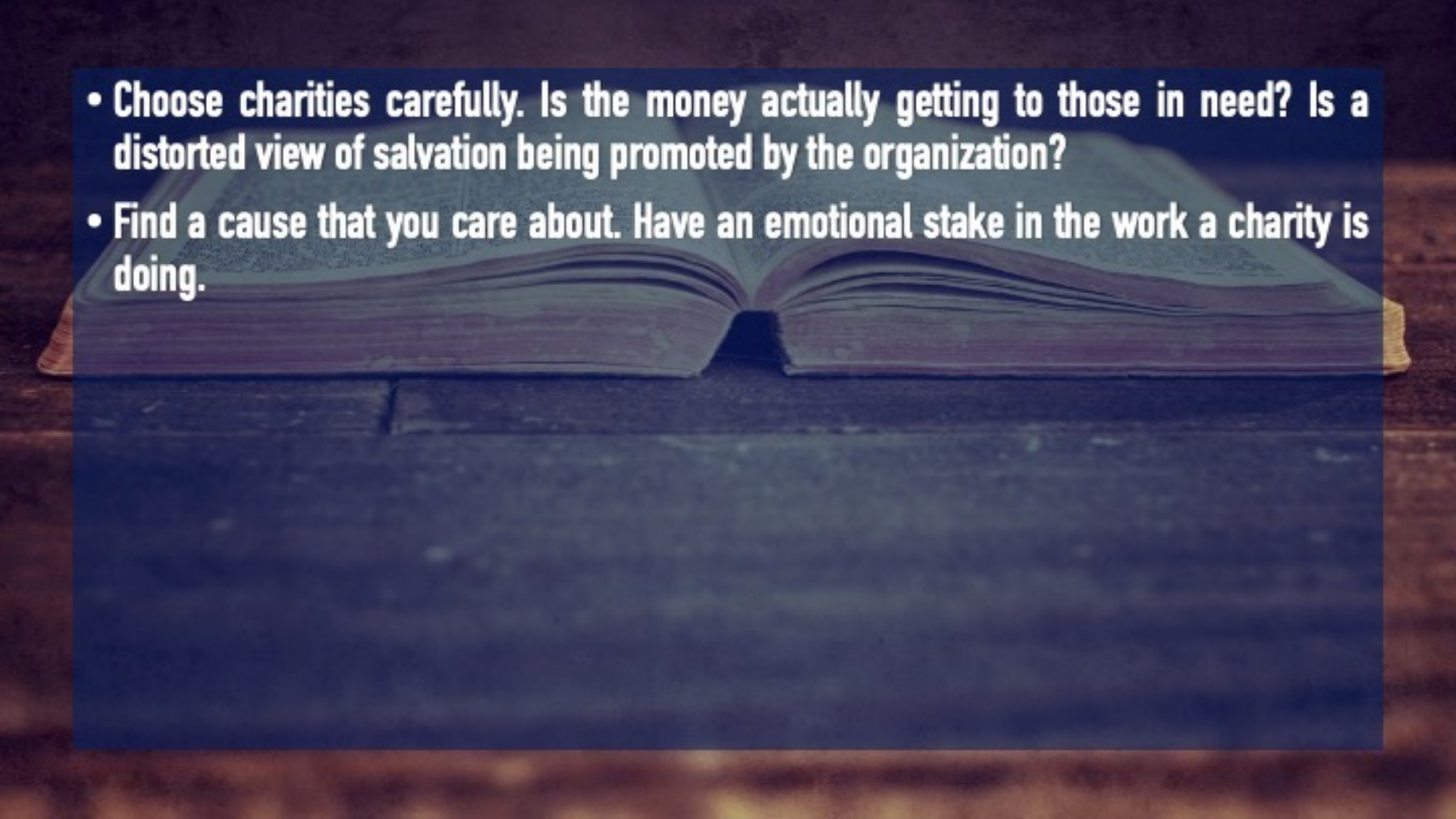
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- **“So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10).**
- **Jesus regularly encouraged his followers (and those He asked to follow Him) to share their wealth. This is part of laying up treasures in heaven! In addition, our charity leaves an impression on people we are trying to reach with the gospel (1 Peter 2:15-17).**

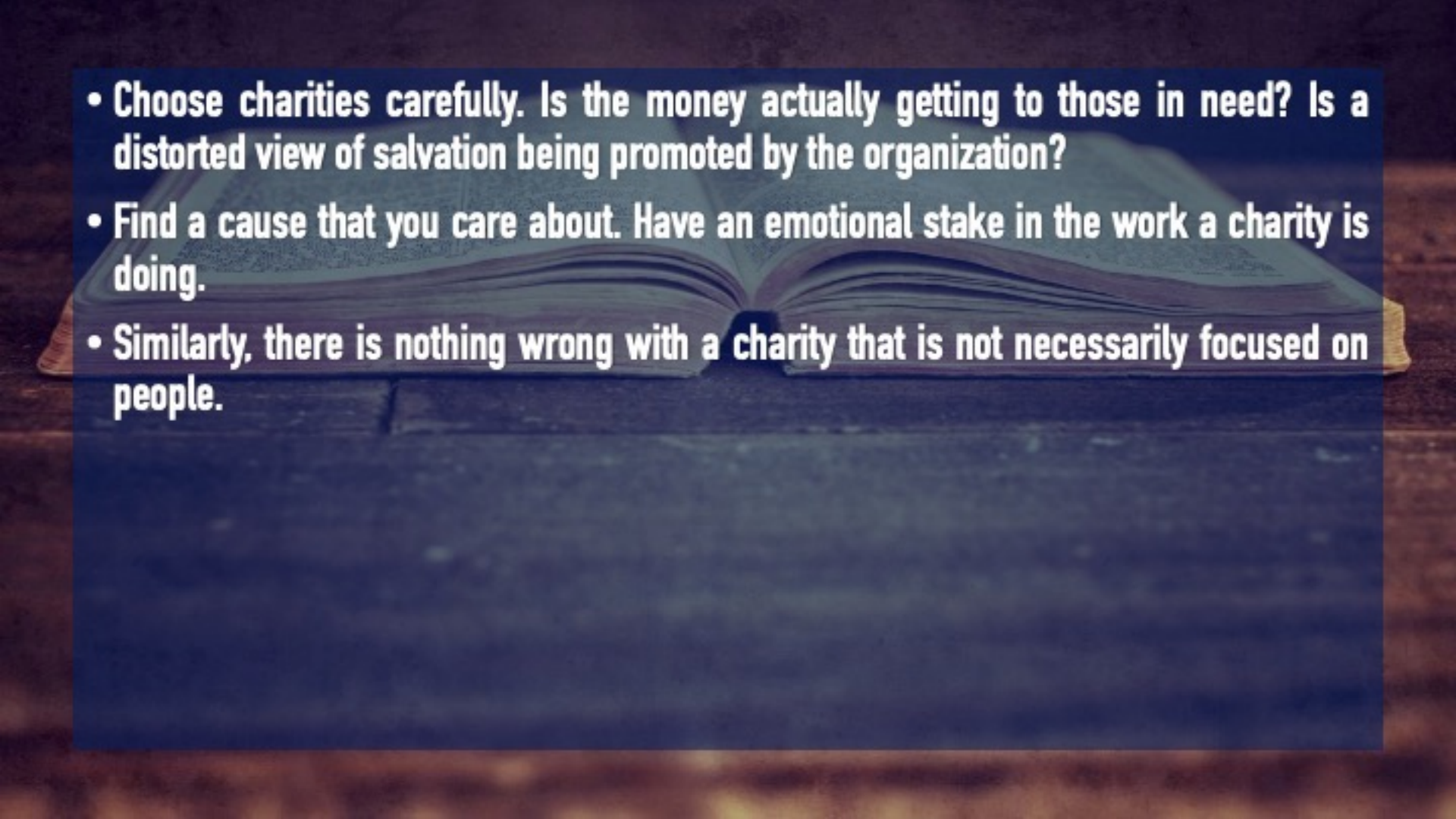


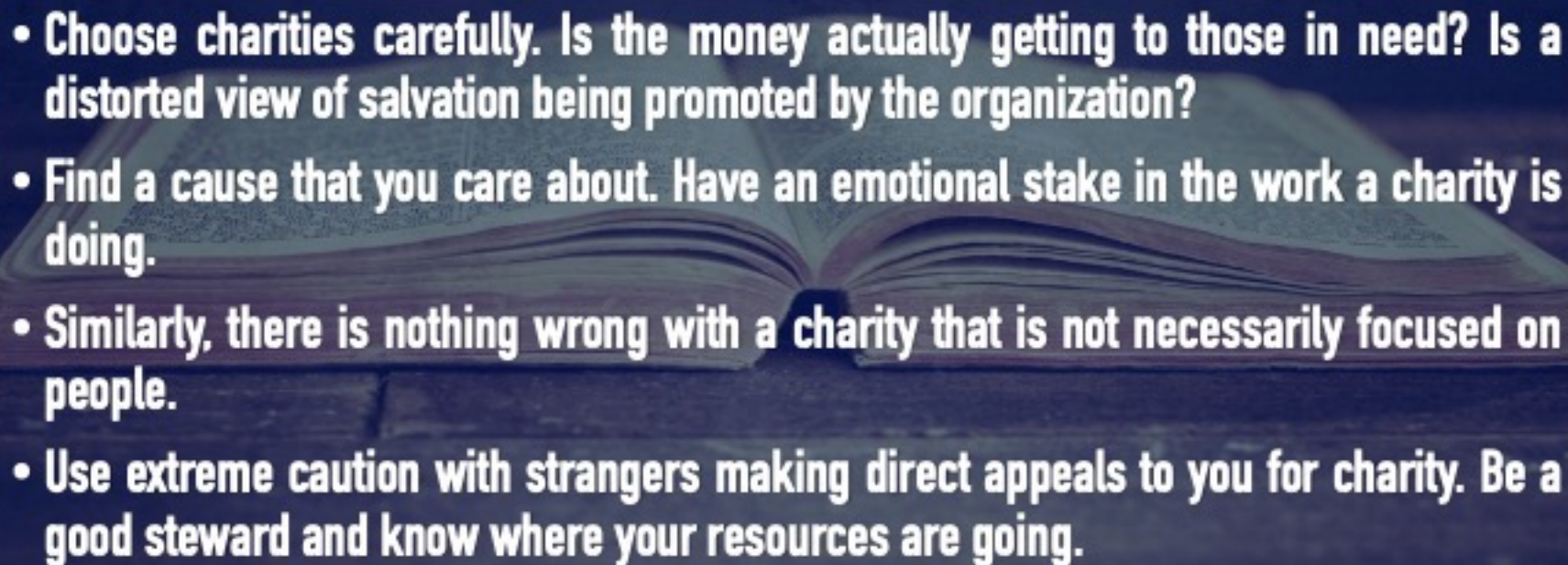
Some Considerations

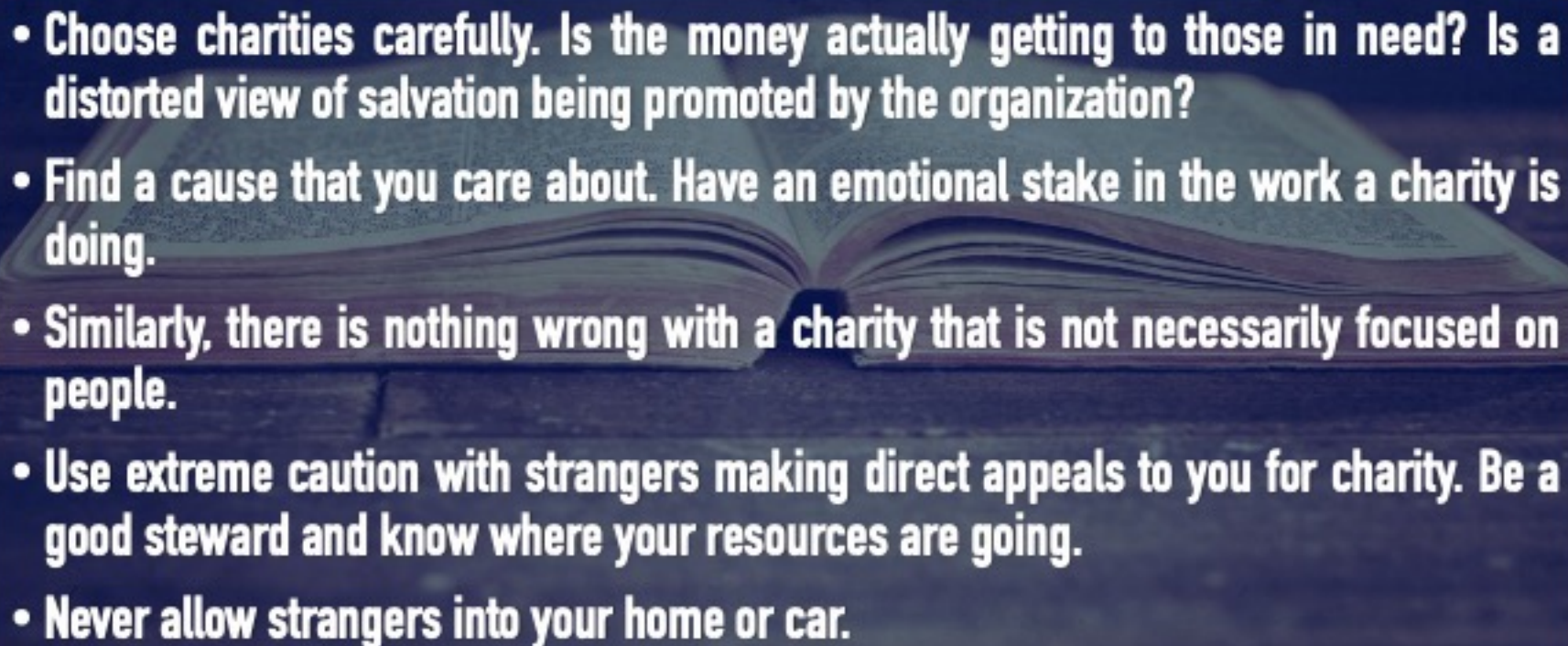
- **Choose charities carefully. Is the money actually getting to those in need? Is a distorted view of salvation being promoted by the organization?**

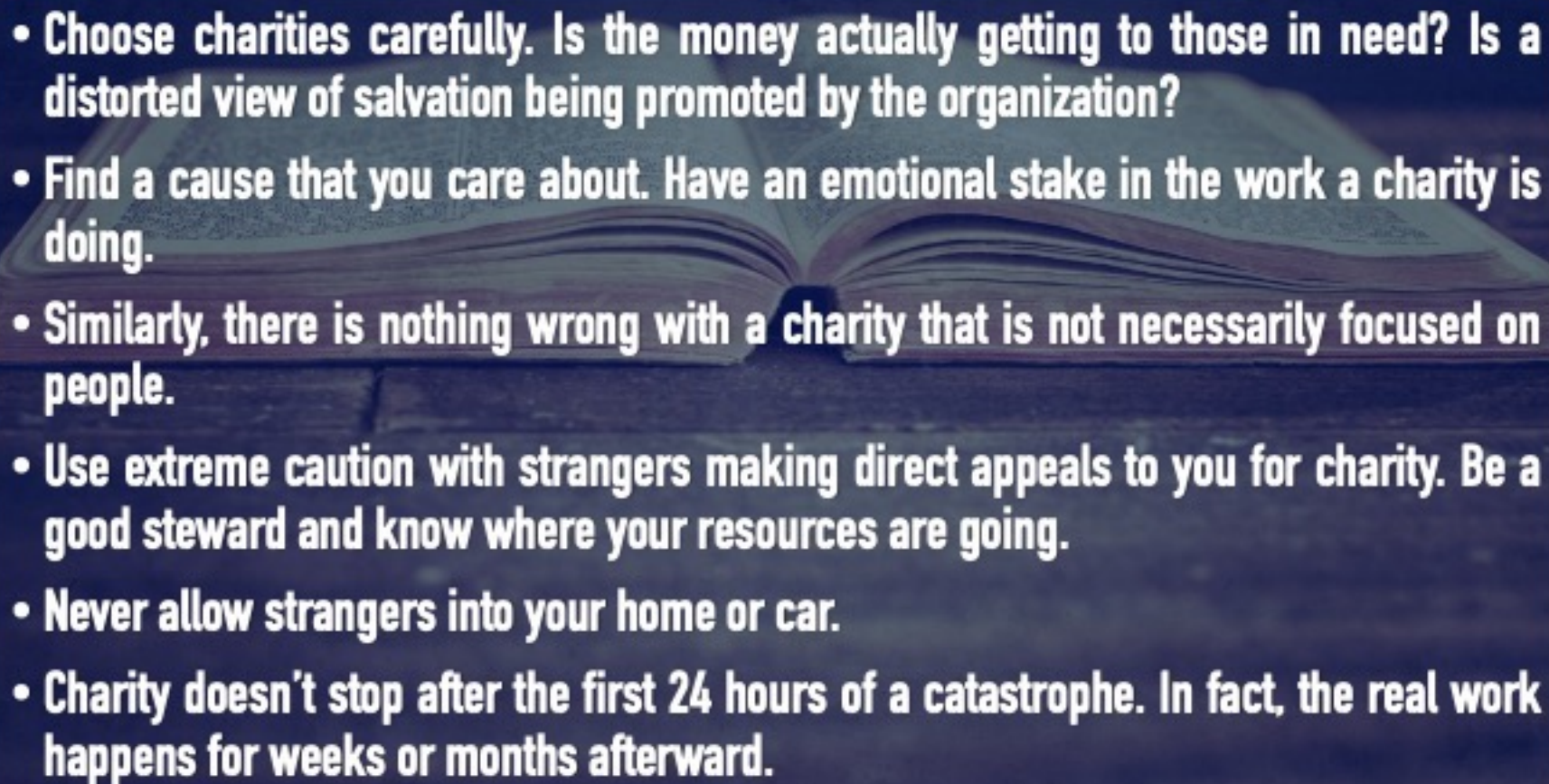


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- An open book with text overlaid on a dark blue background. The book is open, showing two pages with some faint text. The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle texture. The text is white and bold.
- **Choose charities carefully. Is the money actually getting to those in need? Is a distorted view of salvation being promoted by the organization?**
 - **Find a cause that you care about. Have an emotional stake in the work a charity is doing.**

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- An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are white with some faint text visible. The book is set against a dark blue, textured background. Overlaid on this background is a semi-transparent dark blue rectangle containing three bullet points in white text. The text is bold and clear.
- **Choose charities carefully. Is the money actually getting to those in need? Is a distorted view of salvation being promoted by the organization?**
 - **Find a cause that you care about. Have an emotional stake in the work a charity is doing.**
 - **Similarly, there is nothing wrong with a charity that is not necessarily focused on people.**

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- An open book is shown in the background, with its pages slightly curved. The book is placed on a dark surface. Overlaid on the image is a dark blue rectangular area containing white text. The text consists of four bullet points, each starting with a white circular marker. The font is a clean, sans-serif typeface.
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 - **Find a cause that you care about. Have an emotional stake in the work a charity is doing.**
 - **Similarly, there is nothing wrong with a charity that is not necessarily focused on people.**
 - **Use extreme caution with strangers making direct appeals to you for charity. Be a good steward and know where your resources are going.**

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- An open book is shown in the background, with its pages slightly curved. The text is overlaid on a dark blue, semi-transparent rectangular area that covers most of the image. The text is in a white, bold, sans-serif font.
- **Choose charities carefully. Is the money actually getting to those in need? Is a distorted view of salvation being promoted by the organization?**
 - **Find a cause that you care about. Have an emotional stake in the work a charity is doing.**
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 - **Use extreme caution with strangers making direct appeals to you for charity. Be a good steward and know where your resources are going.**
 - **Never allow strangers into your home or car.**

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- An open book is shown in the background, with its pages slightly curved. The text is overlaid on a dark blue, semi-transparent rectangular area. The text is in a white, bold, sans-serif font. The background of the entire image is a dark, textured surface, possibly wood or stone.
- **Choose charities carefully. Is the money actually getting to those in need? Is a distorted view of salvation being promoted by the organization?**
 - **Find a cause that you care about. Have an emotional stake in the work a charity is doing.**
 - **Similarly, there is nothing wrong with a charity that is not necessarily focused on people.**
 - **Use extreme caution with strangers making direct appeals to you for charity. Be a good steward and know where your resources are going.**
 - **Never allow strangers into your home or car.**
 - **Charity doesn't stop after the first 24 hours of a catastrophe. In fact, the real work happens for weeks or months afterward.**

An open book with aged, yellowed pages is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The book is the central focus, with its pages slightly curved. A semi-transparent dark blue rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the book, containing white text. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font and is arranged in four lines. The background behind the book is dark and out of focus.

**Don't forget about
the most important
treasure you can
share (Acts 3:1-10).**