

3) Belonging to the Church, community of grace, makes you generous ► your community forms your ethic, including your financial ethic, views + practices!

Are you a Christian? Are you known as a generous person? Are we known as a generous community?

① Paul's pastoring of Corinthian Church into generosity

☰☰ Context of Chapter 8

☑ Church birthed in Jerusalem, impoverished members of the Mother Church saints in Jerusalem

☑ Paul's mission to bring aid to impoverished saints
Romans 15:25ff, 1 Corinthians 16:1-4, Chp 8-9

1. Paul encourages generosity among "brothers," Corinthian Christians, by sharing example of Churches of Macedonia 8:1-5

2. Titus is sent to bring to completion this "act of grace" among the Corinthians, and Paul encourages them to excel in this act of grace, as they do in their other gifts. 8:6-7

Nurturing, like Father + Mother

3. Paul doesn't command, but calls them to prove their earnestness, motivated by the Grace of Jesus. 8:8-9

4. Paul points out how completing their gift will benefit them as they participate in *fairness* as part of God's global family.

8:10-15 ▶ Not socialistic economic distribution but the sharing of God's spiritual family.

5. Paul establishes the team that will carry the gift, i.e. financial controls, accountability and reporting for "the glory of the LORD himself and to show our good will" 8:16-24

See what's going on? Formation of a community ethic of generosity among a global family!

Breathtaking isn't it?

Watching a global community of generosity formed! Working itself out in your ♥, our community today. *Bob Miller Story*

What are applications to us today?

② Applications to you/us today

1. You/we belong to a global spiritual family. We are bound together by the grace of Christ to share our resources w. our brothers + sisters in need. *Family... Global Missions*
2. You/we must first dedicate ourselves to the LORD Jesus, our stuff, our \$ will follow. *Vs. 5 Greater ▶ Lesser, Tithe, Talents, Time*
Tim Keller
3. You/we should value financial accountability "intimacy," financial controls, accountability, reporting. *Financial Peace U, Redeemer's Department of Finance*

③ Motivation of the Gospel

What produces "wealth of generosity" out of extreme poverty? (vs. 2) "Abundance of Joy"?
Act of Grace → Mighty Motivation ↘

*For you know the grace of our LORD Jesus Christ,
that though he was rich
yet for your sake he became poor
so that you by his poverty might become rich*

See how this motivates breathtaking generosity? Examples