



## COMMITTED – COMMIT TO GENEROUSITY

### Community Group Study Guide: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 – Week of March 27, 2023

#### 1. Giving is an investment

One of the first that we can learn from the passage is that giving for kingdom purposes is an investment. Paul makes this clear. Furthermore, that our approach to this kingdom investment will impact the rewards that we are given. The more generously we sow, the more bountifully we will reap. As Christians, we should be having this mindset, looking at our opportunities for giving a chance to invest in the Lord.

#### 2. Giving is a matter of the heart

Paul notes that each should give based on how you have decided in your heart. We should consider giving bountifully, but to do so freely and not under compulsion. Ultimately, we should give sacrificially. We should give more than we can spare. We should give generously, at the cost of fully satisfying our own desires. This should be done cheerfully, as we invest in God's faithfulness.

#### 3. Giving is an act of faith

Giving in this sacrificial fashion is not easy. In verse 8, Paul reminds us that God in His grace will provide sufficiently for all things and in all times. Because of God, His power and faithfulness... we can give as an act of faith.

#### 4. Giving is a catalyst for spiritual growth

Giving also has the capacity to grow us in our faith. Faith requires that we step into the unknown with the hope of what will transpire out of it. To grow in faith, we need to exercise it. One clear way of doing that is with our giving. In Malachi 3, the Lord invites us to test Him specifically in this area... and to see how He will respond to giving in faith. This process of continuing to trust God, and God responding, has the potential to be a catalyst for the growth of our faith.

### DISCUSSION GOALS

#### Head

As Christians, we should look at giving not as an obligation, but an opportunity. We give generously, investing in the promises and faithfulness of God... knowing that giving results in God's glory.

#### Heart

We should look to the generosity of God, who gave to us the supreme treasure of our lives. In response, we should cheerfully desire to give in the same fashion that was given to us.

#### Hands

Each our us should consider carefully what we should give. We should act without reluctance, and give cheerfully.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Friday Service  
4/7 @ 6pm

## **5. Giving is a blessing to the Church**

The ministry of giving supplies the needs of the saints, and it overflows into the many thanksgivings to God. As we give generously, we support and equip the local church body... but it also has an impact for the glory of God all over the place. Charity, care, and support have been hallmarks of Gods people responding to Him with generous giving.

## **6. Giving is a blessing to God**

In verse 13, Paul makes it clear that giving ultimate results in God receiving glory. This is the greatest benefit of giving... that people get to see a picture of our generous God in us, and God gets the glory that He deserves.

## **7. Giving is the natural response to God's grace**

We can respond with generous giving, because we see that God was indescribable generous with us. We understand that the gift of Gods grace empowers us to freely give to others... just as God has given to us.

## Read 2 Corinthians 2:6-15

1. How/why is the commitment to generosity different than a commitment to giving? What distinguishes the two? Do they have a relationship to one another?
2. How should we determine the degree to which we give? What are the restrictions or guardrails to our giving?
3. **Read Matthew 25:14-30** What encouragement or lessons can be found in this passage in regards to giving/being generous? How does the master's emphasis on the faithfulness of the servant inform your understanding of generosity?
4. How should we address our hearts when we find them unwilling to give? How has the Lord grown your heart's desire to give?
5. In Malachi 3, the Lord instructs His people to put Him to the test. How does that process work in our lives? What challenges does that create?
6. How is God glorified by generosity?
7. How does our depth of knowledge and love for the Gospel impact our depth and love for giving?
8. How has the Lord shown faithfulness in response to your giving? How what areas has He taught you to trust Him more?