



CHRISTMAS

—AT HARVEST BUFFALO—

CHEERFULLY GIVING
AT CHRISTMAS

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

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Big Idea

What informs our giving will determine our collective culture.



The Jerusalem Offering

- Caused by the influx of new believers from Pentecost
- Caused by massive persecution for the Gospel
- Caused by harsh economic conditions by the Romans



- My giving must be explained by grace exclusively



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- My giving must be measured proportionately
- My giving must be offered sacrificially
- My giving must be prepared voluntarily
- My giving must be expressed worshipfully



Cheerfully Giving at Christmas

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

BIG IDEA:

What informs our giving will determine our collective culture.

1.

MY GIVING MUST
BE ENTRUSTED
CAREFULLY

(VERSES 5-6)



- Ditch of gullibility



- Ditch of gullibility
- Ditch of cynicism



Cheerfully Giving at Christmas

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

BIG IDEA:

What informs our giving will determine our collective culture.

1. My giving must be entrusted carefully (verses 5-6)

2. MY GIVING MUST
EXCEL
PROGRESSIVELY
(VERSE 7)



Cheerfully Giving at Christmas

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

BIG IDEA:

What informs our giving will determine our collective culture.

1. My giving must be entrusted carefully (verses 5-6)
2. My giving must excel progressively (verse 7)

3. MY GIVING MUST
VERIFY MY
TESTIMONY
(VERSE 8)



But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:17-18



Cheerfully Giving at Christmas

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MY GIVING MUST
FOLLOW JESUS'
GENEROSITY
(VERSE 9)



He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Hebrews 1:3



And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence
with the glory that I had with you before the world
existed.

John 17:5



And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son
from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14



Cheerfully Giving at Christmas

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

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1. My giving must be entrusted carefully (verses 5-6)
2. My giving must excel progressively (verse 7)
3. My giving must verify my testimony (verse 8)
4. My giving must follow Jesus' generosity (verse 9)

APPLY TO LIFE

1. What influences have been shaping my giving habits?
2. How will I make conversations about finances a normal and healthy part of my discipleship relationships?
3. When this season will I intentionally look to Christ to ignite joy in my giving?