

# 03/14/21 Message

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Part of Win the Day

March 13, 2021

\*\*Message: Make it Snow

## Series: Win the Day

Recap: We're in the 7th and final message in our ***Win the Day*** series, based around the namesake book from Mark Batterson. We live in a negative culture and we need a win! We need something to celebrate; we need a victory! It starts when we win the day, one day at a time. Using Biblical principles for changing sides (moving from the losing side to the winning side), together we will learn to stress less and accomplish more in 2021.

## Introduction

What does making it snow have to do with this series?

True story: A chemist named Vincent Shaefer had been working in his lab at General Electric - trying out lots of cool experiments. He used a GE freezer at sub-zero temperatures, created clouds with his breath, and he would add different chemical substances to the cloud to see what would happen. When he added dry ice to the freezer, and made a cloud with his breath, snow crystals formed.

On November 13, 1946, he flew his plane into a cumulus cloud and dumped out dry ice. Witnesses on the ground said the cloud seemed to explode... the snowfall could be seen for 40 miles. The local newspaper wrote this, "Shaefer made it snow this afternoon over Pittsfield! Next week, he walks on water."

Another example is Elijah in ***1 Kings 18*** - our pandemic was Elijah's famine (it was a 3.5 year famine). Elijah climbed Mount Carmel - went as high as he could go, and got as low as he could go, bowing with his head between his knees and started talking to God. He couldn't fix the problem, but Elijah knew who could!

## Jesus (and Paul's) Ministry

The ministry of Jesus (...and Paul... and us) is two-fold:

- Share the GOSPEL
- Meet their NEEDS

Paul was writing about that principle in his letter to the church at Corinth (the Corinthians). He shared that you can't share the gospel and meet their needs unless you **GIVE**

*People hear that word "give" and they freak out because too often we put a higher value on our money than we do God. When we value God, we worship Him with our money... our treasures, we also worship Him with our time and our talents... we give our time, our talents, and our treasures... all things He has given to us, or we wouldn't have them - we're giving back to Him.*

—Pastor Chad

- Paul calls it the ministry of GIVING

## Paul's Second Letter to the church at Corinth

A year or so before Paul wrote this, he heard the Corinthian church was going to send an offering, but apparently it didn't happen, at least not before he wrote the letter. He makes these points:

Verse 3 - I want to make sure you are really ready to give!

Verse 4 - It would be embarrassing to find out that you aren't ready when you've been saying you are!

Verse 5 - I don't want to embarrass you, so I'm sending some folks there before I come to make sure the offering (the gift you promised) is ready! But I only want you to give if you're willing to give out of a generous heart (don't give if you have the wrong motive)

### **2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (NLT)**

6 Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.

7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person

who gives cheerfully.”

8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

9 As the Scriptures say, “They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.”

10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

11 Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

12 So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.

13 As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ.

14 And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you.

15 Thank God for this gift too wonderful for words!

*The seeds you plant today, will produce the crop you receive tomorrow. If you plant pumpkin seeds, you'll get pumpkins. If you plant carrot seeds, you'll get carrots. If you plant nothing, you'll get nothing. In the same way, the prayers and actions you sow today produce the answers and results you'll experience tomorrow.*

—Mark Batterson

You can wait on it to snow... or you can make it snow!

Paul connects the dots here by using one word – at least 7 times in 10 verses – GENEROUS!

Paul is saying – stop talking about doing it and DO IT!

## **How do you win the day and make it snow?**

Give your time, your talents, and your treasures to God – faithfully and with the right heart.

When you do:

Your needs will be MET

You will have JOY

Paul goes on to say in v13 – they will give glory to God! When you give generously, not only will you be blessed, but others will be blessed too. They will give glory to God!

Your actions will bring people CLOSER to JESUS

V13 also tells us that it proves you are obedient.

Your actions show the world an OVERFLOWING GRACE

Simply put – if you give your time, your talents, and your treasures GENEROUSLY –

It BLESSES you

It GLORIFIES God

You want a better today – make it happen! You want a better tomorrow – make it happen!

Win the day! Make it snow!