



# VISION & VALUES



Center City Church

All of life is **all for Christ**

# Outline

- 1) Autopsy of our avarice (greed)
- 2) Anatomy of generosity

# We falsely believe

- a) God is limited in goodness and God is limited in love

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- 1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

**Psalm 24:1** The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof, the world and all who dwell therein.

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1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

**Malachi 3:10-12** “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

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1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

# We falsely believe

- a) God is limited in goodness and God is limited in love
- b) we are owners (not stewards) who are in control

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1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

**Proverbs 18:11** A rich man's wealth is his strong city, and like a high wall in his imagination.

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1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

# We falsely believe

- a) God is limited in goodness and God is limited in love
- b) we are owners (not stewards) who are in control
- c) money is the issue and / or money is the idol

# 1 Timothy 6:10

"The love of money is the root of all evil".

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1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

## Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

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1. Autopsy of our avarice (greed)

# Outline

- 1) Autopsy of our avarice (greed)
- 2) Anatomy of generosity

## 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and

## 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

beyond their means, of their own accord,  
begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part  
in the relief of the saints— and this, not as we  
expected, but they gave themselves first to the  
Lord and then by the will of God to us.

## 2 Corinthians 8:1

We want you to know, brothers, about the **grace** of God that has been **given** among the churches of Macedonia

## 2 Corinthians 8:6

Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of **grace**.

## 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all **grace** abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

## 2 Corinthians 8:9

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.

a. **Grace** is given

- a. **Grace** is given
- b. **Grace** is received

**2 Corinthians 8:5** and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

**Proverbs 3:9-10** "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine."

**Proverbs 19:17** "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed."

**2 Corinthians 9:6** "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

## 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

- a. **Grace** is given
- b. **Grace** is received
- c. **Grace** overflows in giving (generosity)

## 2 Corinthians 8:3-4

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints.

## 2 Corinthians 8:11

“So now finish doing it as well, so that your readiness in desiring it may be matched by your completing it out of what you have.”

## 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all **grace** abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

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## Action steps

1. Give thanks daily (personal practice)

2. Anatomy of generosity

## Action steps

1. Give thanks daily (personal practice)
2. Reflect weekly (corporate practice)

## Action steps

1. Give thanks daily (personal practice)
2. Reflect weekly (corporate practice)
3. Give regularly (eternal practice)