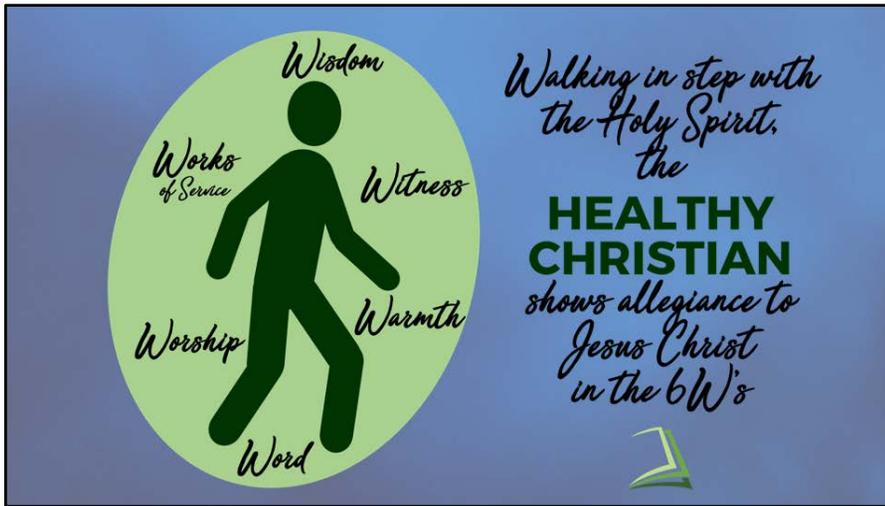


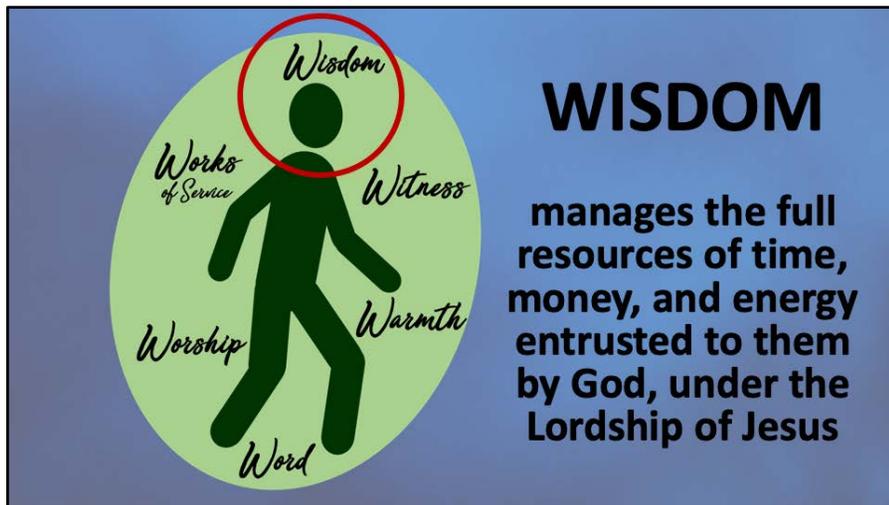
(Theme Slide)



2

READ SLIDE

TR: The specific W of . . .



3

READ SLIDE

TR: When it comes to managing money, I struggle a bit with my high school nickname, Dutch. Having been born in the Netherlands, the moniker fit. But my challenge is not my heritage, but that my reputation fits the stereotype.

*"Who invented copper wire?
Two Dutchmen fighting for a penny"*

*A local shop owner shook his head
and loudly proclaimed,
"The Dutch: Kijken, niet kopen!"
("They look, never buy")*

4

READ SLIDE

-- Being "dutch" means being cheap . . . and even if we call it "frugal," it is still not the label I want.

-- At least not a label that I would want to Lord to say about me.

TR: I'd rather be known as being "generous," like the Macedonian Christians.

from 2 Corinthians 8:2
page 1070 in handout Bibles

... overflowed in
a wealth of generosity ...

ESV

5

To overflow in a wealth of generosity . . . that is an description that I aspire to, and I hope you do too.

-- Today we begin a brief three-part series that takes us into 2 Corinthians . . . which we will cover in our study in January on being Built^UP through suffering.

-- I planned this earlier this summer, because I want us to see the whole of 2 Corinthians, not just the amount we can study in the 10 weeks we'll have this winter.

-- This was planned as our annual equipping in financial stewardship, not because of our financial status BUT because of our discipleship status.

-- To be a healthy Christian we must learn how God wants us to be a steward of what He has entrusted to us.

TR: So, who typically can teach us more about financial stewardship, those with abundance or those afflicted with poverty?

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a _____ - _____ (1)
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to _____ our generosity (2)
- Ask the Lord for an abundance of _____ joy (2)
- Willing give according to our _____ and then give _____ (3)
- Earnestly desire the _____ - _____ of fellowship and serving our fellow saints (4)
- Give _____ first to the Lord (5)

LEARNING FROM THE POOR

LEARNING FROM THE POOR

*the
Macedonian
Christians*

6

As we think about the question . . . READ SLIDE . . . the top box of our sermon notes . . .

-- . . . we find out that we are learning about a wealth of generosity from the poor.

TR: That is, from the Macedonian Christians in the first century.



The smaller map inset helps us gain our bearing on where we are with the Mediterranean Sea as our reference point.

-- The green oval points us to Achaia, with Corinth clearly marked. That's who Paul is writing to.

-- But chapter 8 begins with the Apostle talking about the churches in the north, in Macedonia.

-- Churches like Philippi and Thessalonica

-- There was an intense rivalry between these two areas, and it wasn't always kind.

-- Macedonia was called "The Barbaric North" by Greece (Belleville, p. 211)

TR: So, let's look in our Bibles and see what we can learn from the poor churches in Macedonia . . .

2 Corinthians 8:1-2 *page 1070 in handout Bibles*

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed **in a wealth of generosity** on their part.

ESV

8

READ SLIDE

TR: Verse 3

2 Corinthians 8:1-2

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

ESV

9

READ SLIDE

- Acts 11:28 tells us that there was a severe famine that spread over the entire Roman world during the reign of Claudius (AD 41-54)
- In order to minister to those hit very hard back in Jerusalem . . .
- . . . and in order to model the unity that existed now in the one new humanity of the church, where it didn't matter if you were a Jew or Gentile . . .
- . . . Paul was arranging an offering for the relief of the saints.

TR: These Macedonians has the label of “overflowing in a wealth of generosity.” If we want the same description to be true of us, we need to look a bit more closely.

2 Corinthians 8:1-2 page 1070 in handout Bibles

We want you to know, brothers, **about the grace of God that has been given** among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

ESV

10

Notice that verse 1 says that the grace of God has been given to these churches.

TR: Considering what we've recently been reminded of by Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, this grace is part of the surpassing, hyper-rich grace of God.

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

☐ Know that generosity is a grace-gift

11

If we are to have an overflow of generosity mark our lives, we need to . . . READ SLIDE

-- *charis* (grace) is used 10 times in chapters 8-9.

-- I capture it in our notes as GRACE-GIFT to remind us that we don't deserve it.

-- Contra commercials where people are buying themselves cars for Christmas, saying, "I have been pretty good this year."

-- Remembering that a true wealth of generosity is something far deeper than putting in some money in the red kettle because you feel guilty. It is a gift of God.

TR: If we are to overflow in generosity, we must learn more . . .

2 Corinthians 8:1-2 page 1070 in handout Bibles

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

ESV

12

The description of the churches in the brutal north is not one of ease and plenty.

- They were experiencing a severe time of testing, made up of all kinds of afflictions.
- Their poverty was extreme; it was rock bottom extreme.

TR: We can realize from this that . . .

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a grace-gift
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to cap our generosity

13

READ SLIDE

-- True generosity is not bound by how little we have, nor by how hard it is to give to the needs of another.

TR: In the midst of these challenges, we find a core insight into these Macedonians . . .

2 Corinthians 8:1-2 page 1070 in handout Bibles

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their **abundance of joy** and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

ESV

14

. . . their extreme poverty was mixed with an abundance of joy.
-- They may have had little money, but they had an overflow of joyous faith that trusted God.

TR: If we want to be generous people, truly wealthy in generosity, we will need to . . .

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a grace-gift
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to cap our generosity
- Ask the Lord for an abundance of resilient joy

15

READ SLIDE

-- For many of us our joy is paper thin. It tears away as easily as the wrappings on a present.

-- It may look shiny and colorful, but it will soon be crumpled up and discarded.

-- Resilient joy has taken up the shield of faith, well-watered by Who our God is and what He has done and is doing for us.

-- EX: resilient like the Tyvek book covers my friend used to have in school . . . twice as thick as the house wrap Tyvek and virtually untearable (the way our joy needs to be).

-- Such joy only comes from God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

TR: A deeper well of insight is dug when we look at verses 3-5.

2 Corinthians 8:3-5

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

ESV

16

These churches . . . (read verse 3)

TR: They were . . .

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a grace-gift
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to cap our generosity
- Ask the Lord for an abundance of resilient joy
- Willingly give according to our means and then give even more

17

READ SLIDE

- Willing = of their own accord, not under compulsion or requirement.
- They gave according to what they could afford, and then gave even more.
- Being a fiscally prudent person, I sometimes struggle with those who give more than they can afford to give . . . until I read that their well overflows in a wealth of generosity, while the overflow from my heart is often a stingy, muddy slurry.
- EX: having recently heard of a pastor who is promoting that the people in his church give beyond their means . . . it is a tough balance between irresponsibility and a wealth of generosity.
- Cf. member who moved away and sent an email asking, "What is sacrificial when we have so much?"

TR: A key difference is that there was no emotional manipulation

for the Macedonians. They not only gave willingly, they 1.7 .

2 Corinthians 8:1-2

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴**begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints** — ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

ESV

18

READ SLIDE (verse 4)

TR: A woodenly literal translation captures that we are talking about GRACE again.

begging earnestly for the
grace of the fellowship of
the service of the saints

ESV

19

READ SLIDE

- People who truly marvel that they were dead, dead, dead AND far, far, far, BUT GOD made them alive and brought them near . . . they want to actively demonstrate it.
 - The best way to help us become people of WISDOM, good stewards whose wealth of generosity overflows, is to be GOSPEL FLUENT, including how we spend our money.

 - GRACE = the favor of
 - FELLOWSHIP = taking part, the word *koinonia*
 - SERVICE = relief but with the idea behind a deacon who serves . . . a hint of worship in the midst of relief.
- TR: If we want the nickname of GENEROUS, we will need to . . .

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a **grace-gift**
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to **cap** our generosity
- Ask the Lord for an abundance of **resilient** joy
- Willingly give according to our **means** and then give **even more**
- Earnestly desire the **grace-gift** of fellowship and serving our fellow saints

20

READ SLIDE

- These Macedonians, the poor folks from the north, understood that it was a gift from God to be able to live out the fellowship with fellow saints, and that serving them was serving Christ.
- Cf. "what you have done for the least of these my brothers, you have done to me."
- Cf. folks who will hear this teaching and then complain that the church hasn't been this way with them . . .
- . . . when the real message is not guilt trips but receiving a grace-gift of participating and serving each other.

TR: These 5 insights bore so deep, that now the well blows forth with generosity when we read . . .

2 Corinthians 8:1-2

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints — ⁵**and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.**

ESV

21

READ SLIDE (verse 5)

TR: We don't know exactly how Paul knew this but we will never overflow in a wealth of generosity if we don't . . .

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a grace-gift
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to cap our generosity
- Ask the Lord for an abundance of resilient joy
- Willing give according to our means and then give even more
- Earnestly desire the grace-gift of fellowship and serving our fellow saints
- Give ourselves first to the Lord

22

... READ SLIDE

-- It is hard for my mind not to go to Romans 12 ... presenting our bodies as living sacrifices as an acceptable act of worship.

-- God doesn't just want what I've got, He wants ME!

-- Here's what is behind the idea of a SOLD-OUT CHRISTIAN ... sold-out for God.

-- We not only sign over a deed of all we have, realizing that God owns it all ...

-- ... but we acknowledge that we are bond-servants of Christ.

-- As horrible as slavery can be, I find it amazing that God redeems this horror to give us a picture of the loyalty and submission we are to have as Christ's willing slaves.

TR: With this list of 6 deep-well insights in front of us, let's take a moment to either check-off or circle each one.

HOW TO OVERFLOW IN A WEALTH OF GENEROSITY

- Know that generosity is a **grace-gift**
- Realize severe tests of afflictions and extreme poverty don't need to **cap** our generosity
- Ask the Lord for an abundance of **resilient** joy
- Willingly give according to our **means** and then give **even more**
- Earnestly desire the **grace-gift** of fellowship and serving our fellow saints
- Give **ourselves** first to the Lord

23

I don't know what your list will look like, but wouldn't it be great if they were all checkmarks?

-- The reality is for most of us, there are areas we need to improve on, through the power of the Spirit, if our generosity is to be considered truly wealthy.

-- Is generosity a grace-gift we've asked for?

-- Have we imagined that generosity is only for the rich?

-- Does parting with our money hurt or is there joy at the opportunity.

-- Are we willing to challenge our levels of giving?

-- Do we beg for an opportunity . . . cf. someone needing money to buy a book and another person was willing to give them money for it . . . when it was initially refused the person responded, "Please don't take away this blessing from me."

TR: We learned all these things by looking at what poorer Christians from Macedonia had to teach us. But what about learning from the believers with an abundance?

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

24

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- _____ what we have started. Good intentions are not enough (6, see 10-12)
- _____ in paying forward all of God's grace-gifts (7)
- Practically prove we really know _____ - _____ for our sakes (8-9)
- Trust God to ensure "equal _____, not equal giving" (14-15)

REMINDE
RS FOR THE RICH

REMINDE RS FOR THE RICH

*the Corinthian
Christians*

**Verses 6-16 of 2 Corinthians 8 provides some reminders for the rich . . . from how Paul challenged the church in Corinth.
-- This takes us to the second box in our notes.**

TR: Beginning in verse 6

2 Corinthians 8:6-7

Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

ESV

25

Let's read verses 6-9 and get an overview . . . READ SLIDE

TR: Verse 8

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹For 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.

ESV

26

READ SLIDE

TR: Now, let's go back and take these verses apart and see what they teach us about how to receive this grace-gift of generosity.

2 Corinthians 8:6-7

Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

ESV

27

We know from 1 Corinthians that Paul had already invited the church to take part in preparing this relief offering.

-- So, in light of the overflowing wealth of generosity of the Macedonian churches, Paul says . . . READ SLIDE (verse 6)

TR: If we are to receive this grace-gift, we must be reminded that we must . . .

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- Complete** what we have started. Good intentions are not enough.

28

READ SLIDE

- It seems that the church started strong but then fizzled.
- Perhaps it was the false teachers or the internal conflicts . . . but something had caused them to move this from the front burner to the back burner to the hot pad to the sink.
- How easy it is for us to have good intentions but not follow through on them.
- “I meant to” is not the same as owning that we did not keep our word.
- I have heard people talk about the materially rich folks saying, “If I had their kind of money, this is what I would do.” Yet often these folks have so much more than the vast majority of the rest of the world.

TR: This idea of completion is underscored again down in verses 10-11. Jump down there with me . . .

2 Corinthians 8:10-11

And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do this work but also to desire to do it. 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.

ESV

29

READ SLIDE

- so the Corinthians started the project a year ago . . . willingly, that is, they had the desire to do it.
- Now they needed to finish doing it . . . completing it out of what they have (not what they don't have)
- This underlines verse 6's call to completion.

TR: Verse 12

2 Corinthians 8:12

For if the readiness is there, **it is acceptable according to what a person has**, not according to what he does not have.

ESV

30

READ SLIDE

- So **READINESS** or **EAGERNESS** or **A WILLING MIND** is essential for an offering to be acceptable.
- It doesn't have to be beyond our means, giving what we don't have to give
- That certainly includes going into debt to give to a ministry.

TR: So, we who have an abundance can receive the grace-gift of generosity if we remember the first reminder that we are to . . .

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- Complete** what we have started. Good intentions are not enough.

31

READ SLIDE

- When the Holy Spirit nudges us to give, and we respond with a willingness to give . . . then follow-through and actually give.
- Saying that we would be generous IF we had a lot more is not generosity. Such thinking is only generous in letting us off with hypocrisy.

TR: A second reminder is found in verse 7

2 Corinthians 8:6-7

Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. **7But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.**

ESV

32

READ SLIDE (verse 7)

- The first three categories in which the Corinthians excel seem to relate to spiritual gifts.
- Perhaps these are gifts related to faith, believing God for miracles and His provision . . .
- . . . and gifts of speech, that teach and perhaps prophecy . . .
- . . . and gifts of knowledge, such as a word of knowledge or wisdom given by God to address a specific situation

- But then Paul talks about earnestness and love, two thoughts he will press on with in the following verses.
- Their hearts were willing, as we just saw.
- And they were greatly loved by Paul, which the rest of the letter conveys.
- SO . . . EXCEL in this act of grace (again the word grace).

TR: This verse reminds us that in order to receive this grace-gift and then excel in living it out, we must . . .

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- Complete** what we have started. Good intentions are not enough.
- Excel** in paying forward all of God's grace-gifts.

33

READ SLIDE

-- All of the spiritual gifts are given by God's grace, according to His choosing.

-- Generosity involves finances, but in reality, it involves our stewardship of all of God's grace-gifts.

-- The idea of **PAYING FORWARD** is captured in paying to toll for the person behind you . . . and not just marveling that someone paid your toll ahead of you.

TR: Who, ultimately, has paid our toll? Verses 8-9 answer that.

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹For 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.

ESV

34

READ SLIDE

-- Paul has just affirmed that the church excels in earnestness and in being loved . . .

-- . . . so be encourages, not commands, that they reflect that in how they deal with this special offering for the poor in Jerusalem.

-- Note again the word **GRACE** . . . this time clearly identified as coming from the most generous of all, our Savior.

TR: If we are to receive this grace-gift of generosity, we must remember that we must . . .

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- Complete** what we have started. Good intentions are not enough.
- Excel** in paying forward all of God's grace-gifts.
- Practically prove we really know **Jesus' grace-gift** for our sakes.

35

READ SLIDE

TR: Jesus' generosity in becoming poor is seen in the entirety of His life on this earth.



The poverty of His taking on human flesh in the womb, to being born in a barn-cave, to the humility to being a dependent child, all the way to the cross.

TR: In our worship flier I copied a portion of Philippians 2 for us to meditate on.

Have this mind among yourselves,
which is yours in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied himself,

by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

The top part reads . . . READ SLIDE

TR: Look at these critical verses again . . .

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹For 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.

ESV

38

The Apostle is saying that our stewardship of finances is a way to prove if our love is genuine.

-- He was using a bit of competition, spurred on by the earnestness of the Macedonians, to give the Corinthians a chance to prove their love was ALSO genuine.

-- We all understand this – “Put your money where your mouth is!”

TR: In a very real sense, Jesus did, and so should we as His followers.

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. **9For 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.**

ESV

39

READ SLIDE

-- People like King Wenceslas and numerous other founders of great movements in the church, though rich became poor.

-- But his deeds I think you know better than I could tell you; for, as is read in his Passion, no one doubts that, rising every night from his noble bed, with bare feet and only one chamberlain, he went around to God's churches and gave alms generously to widows, orphans, those in prison and afflicted by every difficulty, so much so that he was considered, not a prince, but the father of all the wretched. (Wikipedia)

-- People who receive God's grace-gift are princes and princesses, but to the world around us they are considered the father of all the wretched.

TR: So we are reminded to . . .

39

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- Complete** what we have started. Good intentions are not enough.
- Excel** in paying forward all of God's grace-gifts.
- Practically prove we really know **Jesus' grace-gift** for our sakes.

40

READ SLIDE

- If the message of Christ's humiliation is boring to you . . . you probably don't really understand it.
- If we understand it, we will **SHOW ALLEGIANCE TO JESUS** in our wisdom of generosity.

TR: Jumping down to verse 13-15, we find one last reminder . . .

2 Corinthians 8:13-14

For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness ¹⁴your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness.

ESV

41

READ SLIDE

TR: Verse 15, quoting from Exodus 16:18

2 Corinthians 8:15

As it is written, "Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack."

ESV

42

READ SLIDE

- This was talking about the gathering of the flakey bread-like manna 6 days per week,**
- This was for the people of Israel during their time of wandering after leaving Egypt under Moses' leadership.**

TR: The reminder was that we are to . . .

HOW TO RECEIVE THIS GRACE-GIFT OF GENEROSITY

- Complete** what we have started. Good intentions are not enough.
- Excel** in paying forward all of God's grace-gifts.
- Practically prove we really know **Jesus' grace-gift** for our sakes.
- Trust God to ensure "equal **sacrifice**, not equal giving."

43

READ SLIDE

- The Apostle wasn't saying that all the burden should fall on a few . . .
- . . . but that God would ultimately make things FAIR . . . whether monetarily or in other ways.

- Cf. Enoch Olson teaching me about "equal sacrifice, not equal giving."
- Cf. that former member asking me about "sacrificial giving" (mentioned earlier in the message) . . . "When is it really a sacrifice?"
- The answer is not easy, but I also know it is not comparative between individuals.

TR: It is critical that we be NOBLE in all this. I came across this interesting tidbit . . .

43



44

The word generous come from “of noble birth”.

-- In days of old it was assumed that if you were born into wealth you would take on the responsibility of being generous, showing that you were truly a noble.

-- As followers of Jesus who have been born again and who have been seated with Christ in the heavenlies . . . we are a NEW STOCK . . . a NEW RACE . . .

-- and being now of NOBLE BIRTH we are called to live NOBLY.

-- Instead of a tightwad who can pull a penny into wire, I want to live like the Noble Jesus has made me to be.

TR: I want to give and give and give . . . or as an older hymn says . . .

I've been thinking about generosity a lot this month. The idea of giving freely to others is only the secondary meaning of *generous* though. The primary (although now defunct) meaning is "of noble birth." Ever since the pre-14th century days of Latin, if you were born into the right family you were automatically generous.

This shouldn't be all that surprising, because *generous* (by way of *généreux* and *generosus*) comes from the word *genus*, meaning "race" or "stock." It is how we group various biological species into families.

So how did it end up with today's meaning? Well, it has ALWAYS meant someone who is unselfish and plentiful, even way back in Latin. The concept of courage and magnanimity were character traits of the nobly born. Today we tend to associate wealth and prosperity with selfishness and greed, but those who were fortunate to be born into a well to-do family in the past were just expected to behave more....generously!

His grace has no measure
His power has no boundary
known unto men
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth and giveth and giveth again

-Annie Johnson Flint

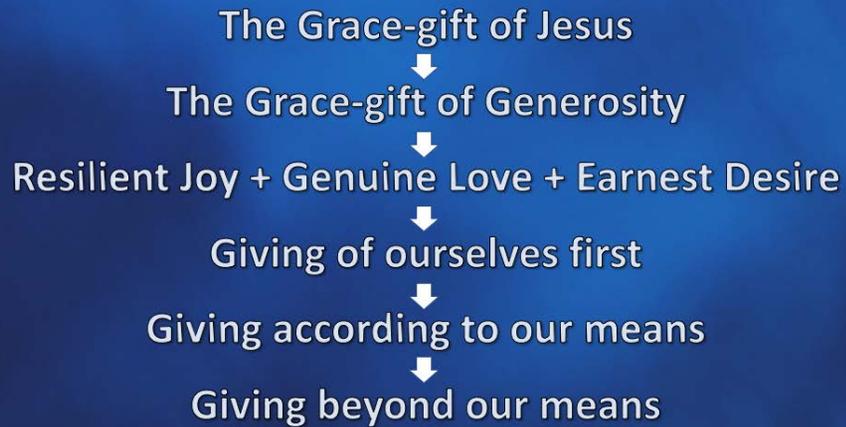
45

READ SLIDE

*He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase,
To added affliction He addeth His mercy,
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.*

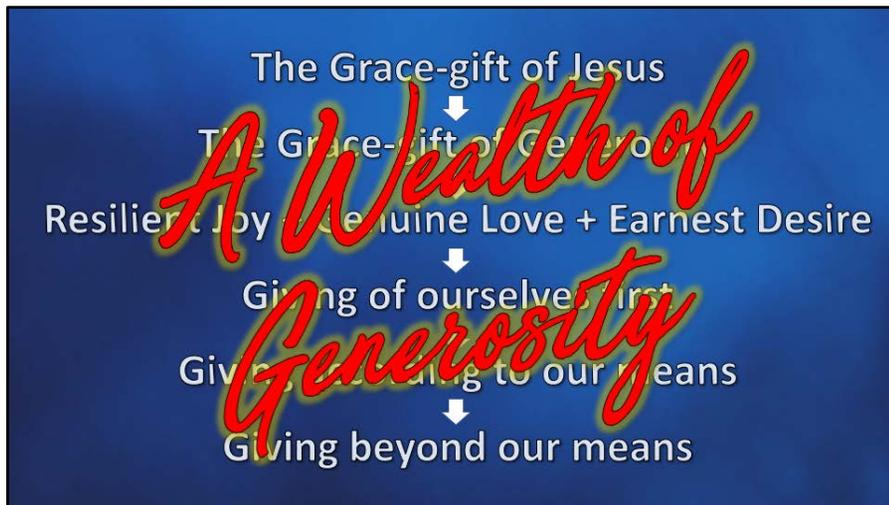
-- He giveth and giveth and giveth again!

TR: May the flow of thought in this part of the Scriptures become the flow of reality in our hearts and minds . . .



READ SLIDE

TR: And perhaps our identifying label will not be a number for one to nine, but the true evidence of a life changed by Jesus . . .



47

READ SLIDE