

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

Lasting Hope Begets Joyous Generosity – 2 Corinthians 9:6-16

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction – illustration of biblical genealogies
2. All We Have is God's
3. God Desires Joyous Generosity
4. Joyous Generosity Yields God's Blessing
5. Conclusion – the lasting hope of Jesus Christ motivates and enables us to joyously generous

Scripture Passages Referenced

- James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.
- Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.
- Psalm 50:10 - For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.
- Deuteronomy 8:18 - You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth...
- Genesis 14 – Abraham tithes to Melchizedek
- Matthew 23:23 - Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.
- Malachi 3:10 - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Discussion Questions

- When you think about your finances, what thoughts initially come to mind?
- What impact does the fact that everything belongs to God have on how we think about finances as followers of Jesus Christ?
- Why is it crucial to understand and remember that everything we have comes from the Lord?
- How does the fact that you a steward of God's resources shape how you view money?
- Why is it important that we make sure we live within our means?
- What does it mean that God desires us to be joyously generous?
- Why is important for us to know that the New Testament assumes tithing as a baseline for giving?
- Why do you think we believe the lie that we can either be joyful givers or generous givers, but not both?
- In what ways can you grow in generosity as an individual and/or as a family?
- How do you believe we could be more generous as a church?
- What can you do to pursue joy in your generous giving?
- In what ways have you turned money into an idol?
- How does your answer to the above question help you see the depths of your sinful heart?
- What does it mean that joyful generosity yields God's blessing?
- How have you experienced God's blessing as you have given back to Him?
- In what ways does this passage and sermon challenge you to grow as a follower of Christ?
- Are there any areas in your life of which you need to repent?
- How does this passage and sermon help you love Jesus more?