



Discipleship Guide  
Live Generously  
Church  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15

This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

**Weekly Questions:**

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
  - How are you living up with God?
  - How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
  - How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

**Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

- Can you recall a time you received advice that felt limiting regarding personal or communal growth? Conversely, what's a piece of advice or an experience that gave you hope for change?
- What was one idea or phrase from passage of scripture that particularly resonated with you or challenged you? Pastor Josh shared "People can change. Churches can change." Why is this belief crucial for a healthy church community? What are some of the barriers that make us doubt the possibility of positive change in ourselves or in our church?
- Pastor Josh asked what would happen if we didn't begin our relationship with church with "What will I get out of church today?" and instead consider a different starting point: "How did I share?" How does shifting this primary question change our approach to church life and our relationships within it? In what ways (beyond finances) can we "sow" into our church community? (e.g., time, talents, encouragement, prayer, attention).
- "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously" (2 Cor. 9:6). How have you seen this principle at work in relationships or communities (inside or outside the church)? The sermon mentioned, "We won't see a return on an investment we never make." What are some "investments" we might be hesitant to make in our church community, and why?
- Paul states, "God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8), and "he who supplies seed to the sower...will also supply and increase your store of seed" (2 Cor. 9:10). How does understanding God as the ultimate source of our resources (time, energy, gifts, finances) free us to be more generous within the church? How does recognizing God's "surpassing grace" (2 Cor. 9:14) motivate our generosity towards one another?
- Can you share an experience where being generous (or witnessing generosity) led to a greater sense of gratitude in you or others?

After reflection, what are you going to do about what you learned this week?