

Hilarious Generosity

Intro:

Matt 6:2-4

Everyone has different motives behind their generosity. They are not all created equal.

Problem:

2 cor 8:1-5

What did the Macedonians know that made them so eager to give?

Paul uses chapter 9 to tell us...

Main Idea:

Every offering is an invitation

To depend on His generosity

To wield His generosity

Implication:

Giving is a weekly opportunity to change your mindset about scarcity

It is a weekly invitation to intimately participate in His work

It is a regular chance to say God is able

Application:

It begs the ongoing question: What are you afraid of?

Articles for further study:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-generosity.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/cattle-on-a-thousand-hills.html>

<https://bible.org/seriespage/4-dependence-god>

https://insightforliving.swncdn.com/pdf/retail/series/Hilarious-Generosity_MessageMates.pdf

Hilarious Generosity

Text:

Every offering is an invitation

2Corinthians 9:1 ¶ Now it is superfluous for me to write to you about the ministry for the saints,
2Corinthians 9:2 for I know your **readiness**, of which I boast about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been **ready** since last year. And your zeal has stirred up most of them.

2Corinthians 9:3 But I am sending the brothers so that our boasting about you may not prove empty in this matter, so that you may be **ready**, as I said you would be.

2Corinthians 9:4 Otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not **ready**, we would be humiliated—to say nothing of you—for being so confident.

2Corinthians 9:5 So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be **ready** as a willing gift, not as an exaction.

1 cor 16:1-4 (a regular weekly invitation to planned disciplined generosity)

1 Tim 6:17-19 (a willing gift not an exaction not a fee to Paul or a tithe- an invitation to fullness of life- be ready. How?)

2 Tim 2:20-21 (being ready for generosity is not a financial issue it is a heart issue)

To depend on His generosity

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

2Corinthians 9:7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **God loves a cheerful giver**.

2Corinthians 9:8 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**.

2Corinthians 9:9 As it is written, “**He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.**”

1 cor 4:7 (Paul wants them to remember whose sufficiency matters)

ps 112 (self sufficiency impossible for a farmer - Paul quotes this verse to make this very point - which paradigm are you in?)

josh 5:10-6:5, 15-19; 7:1-12 (dependence and a reason for it - a nation without scarcity but the resources of Heaven chose self sufficiency - ghazi taking payment, Ananias and saphira keeping some back)

Haggai 1:1-2:19 (every offering is an invitation to a new paradigm of abundance vs scarcity - dependence vs independence)

1 chron 29:5-18 (cheerful giver - hilarious giver - giving back what is His already - its fun giving other peoples money)

Phil 4:10-19 (every offering is an invitation to contentment/sufficiency thru dependence - what does this look like)

mk 10:13-22 (contrast the dependence and trust of a child with the self sufficiency and scarcity mindset

of the rich man...what paradigm are you in? -your sufficiency or His?)

lk 6:38 (every offering is an invitation to share in His abundant generosity - receiving God!!! Not only His generosity but...)

To wield His generosity

2Corinthians 9:10 ¶ **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.**

2Corinthians 9:11 **You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.**

2Corinthians 9:12 For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also **overflowing in many thanksgivings to God**.

2Corinthians 9:13 By their approval of this service, **they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your** confession of the gospel of Christ, and the **generosity** of your contribution for them and for all others,

2Corinthians 9:14 while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you.

2Corinthians 9:15 **Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!**

1 kings 17:1-16 (trust Him for their needs and others - dependence vs self sufficiency - in helping others)

mk 6:34-44 (not just for our needs 12 baskets full but 5000 fed- blessed to be a blessing - an invitation to wield His generosity

matt 6:19-33 (implication/application)