

Ecclesia: Generous

2 Corinthians 9:6-11

SERMON POINT

God's generosity to us in Jesus moves us to give faithfully, joyfully, and sacrificially

KEY TAKEAWAYS →

- Christians are called out of isolation and called into community.
- Christians are called out of consumerism and called into commitment.
- Christians are called out of autonomy and called under the authority of the Bible.
- **Christians are called out of selfishness and called into generosity**

QUESTIONS:

P: In the sermon we talked about how the Lord's generosity to us moves us to give our lives faithfully (with faith opposed to regularly). In 2 Cor. 9:6 Paul says that, "whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly and whoever sows bountifully will reap bountifully."

Q: To use Paul's agricultural metaphor, when the farmer sowed with a lot of seed there was a greater harvest. Why then would a farmer not always sow bountifully?

Q: In what way does "fear of loss" keep us from being generous?

Q: How do we overcome our fear of loss? See 2 Cor. 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."

Q: Why does the Lord (everyone in reality) love a cheerful giver opposed to a reluctant giver? Have you ever given of your time/resources reluctantly?

Q: What keeps us from being cheerful givers (again not just money but of all our resources)?

Q: How might the gospel fuel us towards more joy in our generosity?

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P: Americans tend to give spontaneously, sporadically, and sparingly. Those who give spontaneously tend to spontaneously keep more. Those who give intentionally tend to intentionally give more.

A Biblical pattern for money:

Give 10% (be generous)

Save 10% (be wise)

Live on 80% (be content)

QUOTES:

John Calvin

“Whenever the fear of loss keeps us from doing good to the poor we should immediately defend ourselves with this shield-*“But the Lord declares that we are sowing everything we give to the poor is giving to him.”*”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-Help us move Sunday November 12th at 1pm!