A Grateful Generosity

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Main idea: God wants to increase your giving capacity so that He can bless you and others and bring glory to Himself.

Key Verses: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." **(9:6-7 ESV)**

Key Principles:

- God blesses generous giving that is motivated by love and trust towards Him.
- Just as sowing seed leads to a harvest, giving generously produces spiritual blessings that advance God's work and enrich the giver.
- God delights in cheerful, voluntary giving, not giving motivated by guilt or compulsion.
- Trusting God's abundant provision frees believers to give generously, knowing He supplies all we need to continue in generosity.
- Generosity glorifies God by meeting needs, inspiring gratitude, and pointing people to His grace.
- Giving is a tangible way to participate in God's eternal mission, creating a ripple effect of blessing and worship.

Discussion:

- 1. What does the imagery of sowing and reaping teach us about the nature and rewards of generosity?
- 2. Why do you think God values cheerful giving? How does this challenge our attitudes toward giving?
- 3. How does trusting God's provision encourage you to give more freely?
- 4. Have you experienced God's blessings as a result of giving? Share an example. How did this affect your faith?
- 5. What does Paul mean when he says generosity leads to thanksgiving to God? Can you share examples of this in your own life?
- 6. How can we view our giving as a part of God's eternal plan and mission?
- 7. What steps can you take to cultivate a joyful and intentional approach to generosity?

Prayer:

- Thank God for His abundant provision in your life and for the grace to be generous.
- Pray:
 - o For hearts in your group to grow in cheerfulness and trust as they give.
 - That would use your collective generosity to glorify Him and advance His mission.
 - For those in need, that they might experience God's provision and grace through our generosity.

A Grateful Generosity 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

| . | Give with a proper <u>attitude</u> . | | 9:6-7 |
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| | 1. | You are affected by your offering. | 9:6 |
| | 2. | You are responsible for your offering. | 9:7 |
| II. | Give | 9:8-11 | |
| | 1. | Give because of God's grace. | 9:8-10 |
| | 2. | Give because of a generous heart. | 9:11 |
| III. | Give with a proper <u>focus</u> . | | 9:12-15 |
| | 1. | Be thankful to God. | 9:12 |
| | 2. | Be glorifying to God. | 9:13-14 |
| | 3. | Be sacrificial for God. | 9:15 |

NEXT WEEK: **The Spirit of Christmas Past** Matthew 1:18-25