

Surrendering to Generous Grace

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Main Idea: Generosity reflects the grace of God in our lives, encouraging us to give joyfully and share abundantly, trusting in God's continual provision.

Key Verses: Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in all things, you may abound in every good work. **(2 Corinthians 9:7-8)**

Key Principles:

- The sowing/reaping principle reminds us that generous giving leads to spiritual and material enrichment, as God multiplies resources for those who invest in His kingdom.
- Cheerful giving flows from a heart transformed by grace, avoiding reluctance or compulsion, and aligns with God's delight in those who give freely.
- God's abundant grace supplies all needs, enabling believers to overflow in good works and sustain generosity without fear of lack.
- Giving motivated by God's provision fosters a generous heart that results in widespread thanksgiving, strengthening unity among believers.
- Our generosity glorifies God by demonstrating obedience to the gospel, prompting praise and intercessory prayers from recipients.
- Ultimately, giving points to God's indescribable gift in Christ, inspiring sacrificial commitment that advances His mission on earth.

Discussion:

1. How does Paul's analogy connect to our Forward initiative for a new building? Share how you've experienced the principle of sowing and reaping in your own giving.
2. In what ways have reluctant attitudes toward giving been challenged by God's grace in your life? How can this text help you embrace cheerful generosity?
3. What challenges might arise when trusting God's provision for all needs, especially in this new season at CRBC? How does the Holy Spirit equip us for this?
4. How does Paul's emphasis on grace help us to respond with generous hearts? Discuss steps you can take to foster thanksgiving toward our church's mission.
5. Why is focusing on glorifying God through giving essential for building His kingdom, and how does it emphasize Christ's gospel over human efforts?
6. How does the passage's climax on God's indescribable gift affirm His commitment to bless His people? How does this truth motivate you to make a commitment?

Prayer:

- Pray for hearts that embrace giving, inspired by the sowing/reaping principle.
- Pray for
 - Reliance on God's grace to motivate our generosity in the Forward initiative.
 - Unity and thanksgiving among us as we focus on glorifying God.
 - Bold steps toward sacrificial commitments that reflect Christ's indescribable gift.

Surrendering to Generous Grace
2 Corinthians 9:6-15

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

NEXT WEEK:
The Faithful Generous Heart
1 Chronicles 29:1-22