

“Generous Living”

January 9, 2011

PERSONAL NOTES:

2 Cor. 8: ⁹ *You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.*

Message: *We are created by a generous God to be generous people. So what gets in the way?*

A. “More Money Myths”

1. If I had more money, I wouldn’t worry about my needs.
2. If I had more money, I would be more generous.
3. If I had more money, I would follow God’s principles.

B. The TRUTH about Generous Living: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

1. God created the law of sowing and reaping (6) – Gal. 6:7
2. God wants giving to be our first priority (7) – “first fruits”
 - a. Pre-decide to give or give “left overs.”
 - b. “Give, Save, Live on the Rest!” (Andy Stanley)
3. God loves a cheerful giver (7) – not guilt, or duty.
4. God will provide everything we need, and MORE, so we can share. (8-9)
5. God promises to miraculously multiply our resources (10-11)
 - a. Our Gift x God’s Grace = Miraculous Multiplication
6. Results come from the “ministry of giving”:
 - a. People’s needs will be met.
 - b. They will praise God – He gets the glory.
 - c. Giving will be proof of our obedience to Christ.

C. Becoming a grace-filled, generous giver: 2 Cor. 8:5-9

1. Give yourself first to Christ and invite his grace to overflow in generous living.
2. Decide where you will begin to “excel” in giving your time, talents, and treasure to others, and take a step!

Proverbs 11:25 *A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.*

Matthew 6:33

³³ *Seek the Kingdom of God^[a] above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.*

Proverbs 22:9

The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

Titus 3:⁵ *he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ **whom he poured out on us generously** through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.*