

INTRO

- Share a time when someone's generosity impacted you or your family. How did it make you feel?

As we conclude the Money Matters series, we examine generosity. Giving is an act of worship and trust rooted in experiencing God's grace.

READ

2 Corinthians 8:1-9; 9:6-8

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." — Jesus (Acts 20:35)

REFLECT & RESPOND

Paul uses two examples to capture the heart of generosity: the Macedonian Christians, who gave joyfully despite severe poverty, and Jesus, who gave up his incalculable riches to make us spiritually rich. **The heart of generosity flows from grace, not wealth.**

Qu: Why do you think Paul highlights grace in his motivation toward being generous?

Principles of Giving from 2 Cor 8-9:

- Responsible: take personal ownership of giving.
- Willing: give gladly, not begrudgingly.
- Intentional: plan your giving prayerfully.
- Joyful: let your giving reflect your gratitude.
- Sacrificial: give in a way that stretches you.
- Faith-full: trust God's sufficiency, not your scarcity.

Qu: which principle of giving resonates most with you? Why?

Qu: what barriers make it difficult for you to live generously? How might God and a reflection on His grace, help you overcome them?

Practical Steps Toward Generosity

Paul tells us giving is an act of grace and something we should look to excel in (9:7). It is a vital part of our worship and following Jesus and directly impacts our church community and the mission He's called us to. In order to take this seriously:

- Reflect on your money habits and align them with God's kingdom and values
- Budget with generosity in mind—prioritize church (tithing), the poor (those in need), and the advancement of the gospel.

Qu: how can generosity become a stronger part of your discipleship journey?

Personal & Group Application:

- Spend time this week praying about your relationship with money. Ask God to show you areas where you can grow in trust and generosity.
- Consider how you might "budget for generosity" by reviewing your finances and prioritizing giving.
- Discuss as a group how you can support one another in practicing generosity, such as pooling resources to help someone in need or supporting a cause.

RESPOND & PRAY

- Pray for God's grace to be refreshed in your life; to see generosity as a joyful response to God's love and provision.
- Pray for wisdom and courage to put it into action.