



Conduits to Thanksgiving

2 Corinthians 9:1-15

November 18, 2018

Sermon Questions

1. As you read the law of sowing and reaping in 2 Corinthians 9:6, how do you reconcile that many unbelievers and evil people seem to reap a great deal in this world?
2. Pastor Ron said that giving is for the abundant blessing of others. What other motive would there be to give? Why do you give?
3. How does God view your giving? Do you earn favor from God when you give?
4. 2 Corinthians 9:7 says that God loves a cheerful giver. What if you struggle giving? What if your heart is not cheerful? If you are not cheerful, should you not give?
5. This passage shows how giving can be a way to break distrust between groups. What group could you give to that would help build a trusting relationship that is not there currently?
6. V:15 indicates that our giving comes from God. If you were to be more mindful that your giving comes from God, not just from you, how might that change your view of giving?
7. If our giving comes from God and if you believe that God has no limit on his resources, what does that mean for your giving?

2 Corinthians 9:1-15

9 There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the Lord's people. ² For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action. ³ But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you in this matter should not prove hollow, but that you may be ready, as I said you would be. ⁴ For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we—not to say anything about you—would be ashamed of having been so confident. ⁵ So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.

Generosity Encouraged

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all

*things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.
9 As it is written:*

*“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever.”^[a]*

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!