



JANUARY 10, 2021

ACTS 20:35; 2 COR 9:6-15  
PASTOR PHIL WARD

# SERMON OUTLINE NOTES

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## I. IN CHRIST, WE ARE SET FROM IDOLIZING MONEY

- A. The love of money is an abomination to God (Luke 16:13-15)
  - 1. It's a root of all kinds of evil (1 Timothy 6:10)
  - 2. The love of money is covetousness, and covetousness is sinful idolatry (Exodus 20:17; Colossian 3:5-6)
- B. Idols must be replaced because everyone worships something (Matthew 6:19-21)
  - 1. Christ is a better treasure (1 Timothy 6:17, 7; 1 Peter 1:3-9)
  - 2. By faith, we die and rise with Christ (Romans 6:5-11; Colossians 3:1-4)
  - 3. Greed and covetousness and love of money is replaced by generosity (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

## II. THE GLORY AND JOY OF GENEROSITY (2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15)

- A. Abounding grace leads to abounding generosity (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)
  - 1. God's grace of supply abounds so that we can abound in the good work of generosity (2 Corinthians 9:8)
  - 2. True generosity flows from a glad heart (2 Corinthians 9:9-10)
- B. God's supply reveals his righteous character, so too our generosity reveals our character (2 Corinthians 9:9-11a)
  - 1. God distributes, gives, and supplies (2 Corinthians 9:9-10)
  - 2. We are enriched to multiply sowing, righteousness, generosity (2 Corinthians 9:11)
- C. The aim of our generosity is the glory in the thanksgiving of others (2 Corinthians 9:11-15)
  - 1. Generosity produces thanksgiving to God (2 Corinthians 9:11-12; 14-15)
  - 2. Generosity is a ministry of supply for the saints (2 Corinthians 9:12; 3 John 5-8)
- D. The motivation of our generosity is our belief in the gospel (2 Corinthians 9:13)
- E. The reward of our generosity is great joy, because being generous is a way to reflect Christ in the world (Acts 20:35)
  - 1. Gladly giving money and more than money (2 Corinthians 12:14-15)
  - 2. Hospitality is a form of generosity (Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:8-10)
  - 3. Our joy in generosity reflects God's pleasure in giving us His Son and the Kingdom, which reveals our heart's treasure (Luke 12:32-34)

# SERMON REFLECTIONS

## ACTS 20:35

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

## 2 COR 9:6-13

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 9 As it is written,

"He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. 12 For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. 13 By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others...

1. What has been your experience when it comes to giving money to the church? Has it been positive or negative? Does it feel like an obligation? Why or why not?
2. How does the Gospel set us free from idolizing money? How do we become generous people?
3. What does God's generosity reveal about His character? What does our generosity reveal about our character?
4. How does the gospel motivate us to be generous people?
5. Is generosity limited to the giving of money? What are other ways we can show the generosity of God to our fellow saints and neighbors?