

Series: Generous Living

Message: In The Midst Of Other's Needs, Part One

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 8-9

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Date: 13/14 October 2012

Generous Living in the midst of other's needs is to live self-sacrificially while experiencing supernatural joy.

Self-sacrifice is giving up something you love for something you love more.

2 Corinthians 8-9

1) The Examples of the Macedonians. 8:1-7

2) The Example of Jesus. 8:8-9

3) Paul's appeal for sacrificial giving. 8:10-9:15

1. God's Grace Lays At The Foundation Of Self-Sacrifice. 8:1-2

2 Corinthians 8:1-2

¹ Now, brethren, we wish to make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the churches of Macedonia,

² that in a great ordeal of affliction their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality.

Richard Foster

Giving with glad & generous hearts has a way of routing out the tough old miser within us.

Even the poor need to know they can give. Just the very act of letting go of money or some other treasure does something within us. It destroys the demon of greed.

Warren Wiersbe

Great affliction + deep poverty + grace = abundant joy and abounding liberality

MOVIE - TOWER

A Matter of Trust

Imaginary Walls

Proverbs 18:11

¹¹ A rich man's wealth is his strong city, And like a high wall in his own imagination.

Tower Perspective

Proverbs 18:10

¹⁰ The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe.

Job 31:24-25, 28

²⁴ "If I have put my confidence in gold, And called fine gold my trust,

²⁵ If I have gloated because my wealth was great, And because my hand had secured so much;

²⁸ That too would have been an iniquity calling for judgment, For I would have denied God above.

Proverbs 30:8-9

⁸ Keep deception and lies far from me, Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is my portion,

⁹ That I not be full and deny You and say, "Who is the LORD?" Or that I not be in want and steal, And profane the name of my God.

Next 2 weeks:

2. God's People Should Delight In Making Sacrifices For Kingdom Causes. 8:3-9

3. Self-Sacrifice Should Be Stimulated More By Need Than By Personal Interest. 8:12-15

4. Giving By Promise Can Appropriately Precede The Gift Itself. 8:16-9:5

5. Self-Sacrifice Is Easily Side-Tracked By Personal Covetousness. 9:5

6. God Has Promised Blessing To Enable The Giver To Make Sacrifices Which Meet Other's Needs. 9:6-15