

Series: Generous Living

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

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 8-9

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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.

Last Week:

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.

This Week:

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

2 Corinthians 8:3-11

³ For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord,

⁴ begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints,

⁵ and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

⁶ So we urged Titus that as he had previously made a beginning, so he would also complete in you this gracious work as well.

⁷ But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also.

⁸ I am not speaking this as a command, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity of your love also.

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

¹⁰ I give my opinion in this matter, for this is to your advantage, who were the first to begin a year ago not only to do this, but also to desire to do it.

¹¹ But now finish doing it also, so that just as there was the readiness to desire it, so there may be also the completion of it by your ability.

2 Corinthians 8:3-4

³ For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord,

⁴ begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints,

2 Corinthians 9:7

⁷ Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 8:5-6

⁵ and this, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

⁶ So we urged Titus that as he had previously made a beginning, so he would also complete in you this gracious work as well.

2 Corinthians 8:7

⁷ But just as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance and knowledge and in all earnestness and in the love we inspired in you, see that you abound in this gracious work also.

2 Corinthians 8:9

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:10-11

¹⁰ I give my opinion in this matter, for this is to your advantage, who were the first to begin a year ago not only to do this, but also to desire to do it.

¹¹ But now finish doing it also, so that just as there was the readiness to desire it, so there may be also the completion of it by your ability.

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

2 Corinthians 8:12-15

¹² For if the readiness is present, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

¹³ For this is not for the ease of others and for your affliction, but by way of equality—

¹⁴ at this present time your abundance being a supply for their need, so that their abundance also may become a supply for your need, that there may be equality;

¹⁵ as it is written, "HE WHO gathered MUCH DID NOT HAVE TOO MUCH, AND HE WHO gathered LITTLE HAD NO LACK."

2 Corinthians 8:12

¹² For if the readiness is present, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

2 Corinthians 8:13

¹³ For this is not for the ease of others and for your affliction, but by way of equality—

2 Corinthians 8:14

¹⁴ at this present time your abundance being a supply for their need, so that their abundance also may become a supply for your need, that there may be equality;

2 Corinthians 8:15

¹⁵ as it is written, "HE WHO gathered MUCH DID NOT HAVE TOO MUCH, AND HE WHO gathered LITTLE HAD NO LACK."

Next Week:

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

Movie = "Seed Time"

Sowing Seed

Secret Giving

Now Is The Time