

## THE DYNAMICS OF GIVING & GENEROSITY

May 20, 2018 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 by Bob Branch

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**BIG IDEA:** God wants to change the way we think about ourselves and our resources, so we can joyfully participate in his good and generous purposes. *This generosity is an essential part of being a disciple of Jesus, not an option..*

<sup>6</sup> “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

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### The Law of the Harvest (Sowing and Reaping)

**1. We sow money and resources by giving, and the HARVEST comes according to what and how much is sown. It is a cause-and-effect relationship.** Give a lot (of what you have), and harvest a lot! (Prov. 11:25)

<sup>7</sup> 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.

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**Biblical tithe,** 1/10. (Lev. 27:30) Training wheels...

**2. To God, our giving ATTITUDE is as important as the gift itself. Joyous giving is part of being in God’s good and generous family.**

<sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> As it is written: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.” <sup>10</sup> 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.

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**3. Trusting that “GOD IS ABLE” to bless us and provide for us is intended to fuel our giving.**

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” **Malachi 3:10**

<sup>11</sup> 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.

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**4. God’s provides resources, so we can SHARE them. When we give, God will see to it that we have enough—even more than enough—to continue the circle of blessing.**

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. 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. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” **2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

**5. Our giving IGNITES kingdom dynamics in our lives and others.**