

RESPONSIVE GENEROSITY

August 16, 2020 2 Corinthians 8:9-9:5 by Bob Branch
Real Faith In Raw Times, part 15

IDEA: G.I.G.O. _____ - _____

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. [GIGO]... ¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. [GIVE from what you have]

¹³ Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. ¹⁴ At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, ¹⁵ as it is written: “The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little.” [GOD RESOURCES us to care for others]

²¹ For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man. [We have STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITY]

^{9:3} 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. [THOUGHTFUL, PREPARED generosity] 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. 2 Cor. 8:9-9:5

TAKEAWAYS & TAKEHOMES

1. **G.I.G.O.** _____ - _____
“...had **mercy** on them *just as* I had on you?” **Mt. 18:33** (6:12)
“Be **merciful**, *just as* your Father is merciful.” **Lk 6:36** (22:29)
“**Accept** one another, *just as* Christ accepted you” **Rom. 15:7**
“**forgive**... *just as* in Christ God forgave you.” **Eph. 4:32**
“**love**, *just as* Christ loved us and gave himself” **Eph. 5:2**

CONDUIT EFFECT

2. **Give from** _____ . (12)
“He also saw a poor widow dropping in two tiny coins... “this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For all these people have put in gifts out of their surplus, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.” **Luke 21:1-4**
3. **God** _____ **us to take care of others.**
“Am I my brother’s keeper?” **Gen. 4:9** (Acts 4:32-35 2:44-45; Eph. 4:28)
Do you see yourself as conduits for God’s resources?
4. **We have** _____ +++ _____ **with what God has entrusted to us.**
PRINCIPLE: These are not my resources. They are God’s. I am a steward of his resources, not the owner.
“You are not your own; you were bought at a price.” **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**
“faithful stewards of God’s grace...” **1 Peter 4:10**
5. **Be** _____ **and** _____ **in your generosity.** (v. 9:3; Mt. 6:3)

DECIDE with God, be consistent, prepared (1 Cor. 16:2), **and also open to the SPIRIT’S audible.**