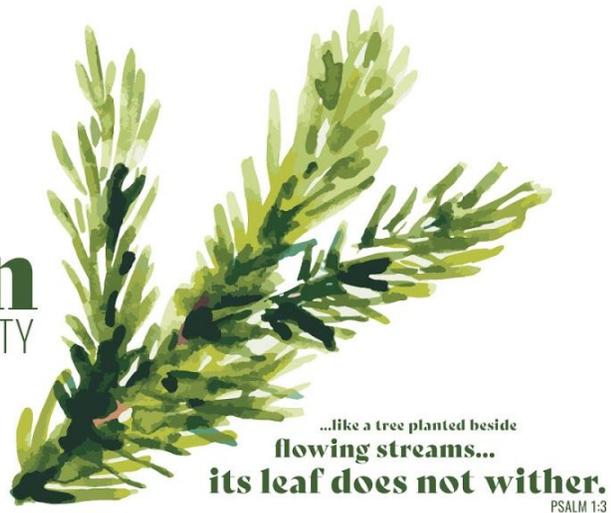


evergreen
CHRISTIANITY



I Will Be Generous **2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15**

Background – This series is designed to help Christian develop habits that will allow them to stand out in a dead and non-Christian culture.

Key Verse - [2 Corinthians 8:5](#)

Core Passage - [2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15](#)

Take Away - Being generous with our finances, talents, and time demonstrates that we have been radically changed by the grace of Jesus.

Sermon Guide:

I. I want to be generous. How?

- A. Embrace God's grace and not circumstances.
2 Corinthians 8:1-7
- B. Follow Christ and give willingly.
2 Corinthians 8:8-10
- C. Give generously by proportion and not percentage.
2 Corinthians 8:11-15
- D. Enjoy the rewards of being generous.
2 Corinthians 9:6-15

II. How can we apply God's Word to our lives?

- 1) Ask God to give you the grace to be generous.
- 2) Make a choice to be generous, and then stretch a bit.

III. **Family/Small Group Discussion**

- 1) Pray – That we will develop a love for Jesus and a desire to follow Him.
- 2) Briefly review the sermon outline. Have people read aloud a few of the scriptures covered and explain why they are important and meaningful.
- 3) Discuss together:
 1. Who in your life is someone that you would consider a generous person? What traits or values do you notice as they serve others? How would you like to grow in being generous to others?
 2. The Antioch Christians gave to the famine-stricken Judean Christians 'each according to his ability' (Acts 11:29). If you are in charge of your own finances, how do you divide up your giving if you know of several people or ministries whom you would like to support? Are there principles or stories that you could share on generous living?
 3. As you read over 2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15, what picture do you have of the Christians Paul described?
 4. What lessons do we learn from this passage on generosity? What kind of giving does God value? What reward does He give?
 5. The Apostle Paul didn't command the Corinthians to give. He invited them to look at the cross and at Christ's giving of himself (2 Corinthians 8:8-9). John Stott referred to earthly riches as 'meager in comparison' with what Christ gave. Why do we lose sight of this so often? How can we encourage ourselves, and one another, to a more spiritual perspective?