

The Spirituality of Giving S1E3

2 Corinthians 9:6–15

Sow What?

6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **8** And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. **9** As it is written,

“He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. **11** You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. **12** For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. **13** By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, **14** while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. **15** Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

Big Idea: New Covenant giving instructs each believer to give generously, purposefully, and cheerfully from the heart, in response to God’s grace rather than under compulsion.

Key Word: Instructions

1. A Personal Decision: Vs. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- Paul addresses every giver, not only those with wealth.

2. A Heart’s Decision: Vs. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- Generosity is a decision of the heart before one of the mind.
- The key word is **προήρηται** (*proērētai*), meaning “**has decided beforehand**” or “**has purposefully chosen**.” It emphasizes a deliberate, personal decision.
- Guilt and pressure cannot produce the heart Paul describes.

4. Sow Bountifully and you will Reap Bountifully: 6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

- **A Righteous Harvest: Vs. 10** He who supplies seed to the sower **and** bread for food will supply **and** multiply your seed for sowing **and** increase the harvest of your righteousness. **11** You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.
 - In **2 Corinthians 9:10**
 - Each **καί** (and) joins another action to the promise: God supplies the seed, multiplies it, and increases the harvest of your righteousness.

Your harvest depends more on the seed you sow than the seed you save.

Practical Takeaway: “Lord, what are You leading me to give—and what step will I take to follow?”

- Pray about your giving.
- Decide an amount appropriate to your means.
- Establish a consistent rhythm.
- Stay responsive to unexpected needs.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. Why does Paul emphasize that giving is a personal decision? How can we take responsibility for that decision?
2. What helps you give cheerfully, and what makes giving feel reluctant or pressured?
3. How does God’s grace shape what you purposefully decide to give?
4. Paul describes a “harvest of righteousness.” What fruit can generosity produce beyond financial returns?
5. As you pray, “Lord, what are You leading me to give?” what practical step could you take this week?