

We Are Joyfully Generous

2 Corinthians 9v6-15

I INTRODUCTION

- A) "We serve a generous God who holds all things in His hands. He gave himself away for our benefit and has granted us everything necessary for life and godliness. Our chief desire then is to see the Kingdom of Heaven – not our own kingdom – established in the hearts and minds of those who love and trust Jesus. In this, we firmly believe that He will more than provide for all our needs, individually and corporately. So, even though it often seems counter-intuitive or unnatural, we joyfully invest in the gospel multiplication of disciples, leaders, and churches. (Matt. 6:33; Acts 20:33-35; Eph. 3:20-21; Phil. 2:4-8; 1 John 4:19)

II JOYFUL GENEROSITY REFLECTS GOD'S OWN NATURE (v15)

- A) God is a giving God
- B) Our salvation (*2 Cor. 9v15; Eph. 2v8*); Jesus (*John 3:16; 2 Cor. 8v9; Romans 8v32*); Life and breath and everything (*Acts 17v25*); The Holy Spirit (*Luke 11v13; 2 Cor. 1v22*); The right to be called his children (*1 John 3v1*); Our adoption and inheritance (*Rom. 8v15-17; 2 Cor. 1v22; Eph. 1v13-14; 1 Pet. 1v3-4*); Spiritual Gifts (*1 Cor. 12v11*); all things that pertain to life and godliness (*2 Pet. 1v3*); his precious and very great promises (*2 Pet. 1v4*)
- C) He has all resources at his disposal (*v8; Acts 17v24; Ps. 24v1; 50v10*)
- D) He loves to resource the harvest of righteousness (*v10; Matt. 6v33; Phil. 4v13, 19*)
- E) He has given the ultimate gift – forgiveness of sins in Jesus (*v15; Eph. 1v7; Col. 1v14*)
- i) We want to be generous with Jesus (*Rom. 1v16; 10v14-17*)
 - ii) We want to be generous in forgiveness (*Matt. 6v12, 14-15; Ps. 103v12*)

III CULTIVATING A SPIRIT OF JOYFUL GENEROSITY (v6-8)

- A) Joyful generosity means bountiful sowing (*v6; Pr. 11v24-25; Gal. 6v7-9; Mal. 3v10; Luke 6v37-38; Mk. 12v41-44*)
- B) Joyful generosity means prayerful willingness (*v7; Ex. 25v2; 1 Chr. 29v9*)
- C) Joyful generosity means believing and acting in faith (*v8*)
- D) A few practical thoughts: 1 Pet. 4v8-11
 - i) Love that covers a multitude of sins: ie. forgiveness (*v8; Rom. 13v8*)
 - ii) Hospitality without grumbling (*v9; Heb. 13v2*)
 - iii) Using speaking and serving gifts to serve one another (*v10; Rom. 12v6-7*)

IV CONCLUSION