

Thanks + Giving

Pastor Mark Jeschke – 11.11.18



THANKS + GIVING: GOD'S GENEROSITY & OUR RESPONSE

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-9 (ESV)

"We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, 2 for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, 4 begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— 5 and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. 6 Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. 7 But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

8 I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. 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 by his poverty might become rich."

RADICAL GENEROSITY:

1. AN _____ (GOD OWNS IT ALL)

"We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia"
(2 Corinthians 8:1)

"For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you for the world and its fullness are mine."
(Psalm 50:10-12)

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."
(James 1:17)

Thanks + Giving

Pastor Mark Jeschke – 11.11.18



2. AN _____ (GOD PROVIDES)

“For in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.”

(2 Corinthians 8:2)

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

(Philippians 4:19)

3. AN _____ (JESUS TRANSFORMS LIVES)

“And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

(Acts 2:45-47)

4. AN _____ (JESUS PAID IT ALL)

“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 by his poverty might become rich.”

(2 Corinthians 8:9)

REFLECTION/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What was the state of Macedonia according to these verses?
2. How did they respond to hardship? How do you respond to hardship in your life in regard to generosity?
3. What does your response reveal about God and His grace?
4. Generosity is a Spiritual gift (2 Cor 8:7) - Do you have the gift of generosity or do you need to work at it?
5. In what ways has God been generous to you?
6. How does generosity preach the gospel to those in need?
7. Generosity is measured proportionally (2 Cor 8:10) Are you generous in proportion to your ability? Why /why not?
8. How does our generosity reveal our heart and our idols?
9. Generosity requires godly stewardship (2 Cor 8:16-23) What does it look like to worship God with our money?
10. Being completely honest, what keeps you from being generous?

Thanks + Giving

Pastor Mark Jeschke – 11.11.18



THANKS + GIVING: GOD'S GENEROSITY & OUR RESPONSE

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-9 (ESV)

"We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, 2 for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, 4 begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— 5 and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. 6 Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. 7 But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

8 I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. 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 by his poverty might become rich."

RADICAL GENEROSITY:

1. AN ACT OF GRACE (GOD OWNS IT ALL)

"We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia"

(2 Corinthians 8:1)

"For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you for the world and its fullness are mine."

(Psalm 50:10-12)

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

(James 1:17)



2. AN ATTITUDE OF ABUNDANCE (GOD PROVIDES)

"For in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part."

(2 Corinthians 8:2)

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 4:19)

3. AN AROMA TO THE WORLD (JESUS TRANSFORMS LIVES)

"And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."

(Acts 2:45-47)

4. AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE GOSPEL (JESUS PAID IT ALL)

"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 by his poverty might become rich."

(2 Corinthians 8:9)

REFLECTION/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What was the state of Macedonia according to these verses?
2. How did they respond to hardship? How do you respond to hardship in your life in regard to generosity?
3. What does your response reveal about God and His grace?
4. Generosity is a spiritual gift (2 Cor 8:7) - Do you have the gift of generosity or do you need to work at it?
5. In what ways has God been generous to you?
6. How does generosity preach the gospel to those in need?
7. Generosity is measured proportionally (2 Cor 8:10) Are you generous in proportion to your ability? Why /why not?
8. How does our generosity reveal our heart and our idols?
9. Generosity requires godly stewardship (2 Cor 8:16-23) What does it look like to worship God with our money?
10. Being completely honest, what keeps you from being generous?