

Joyful Generosity

Lesson One • 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

Excel in Joyful Generosity

Paul's Challenge in 2 Corinthians 8 & 9

To excel in the grace of GIVING; to excel in joyful generosity to the Lord!

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.
2 Corinthians 8:7

Five Principles for Exceling in Joyful Generosity

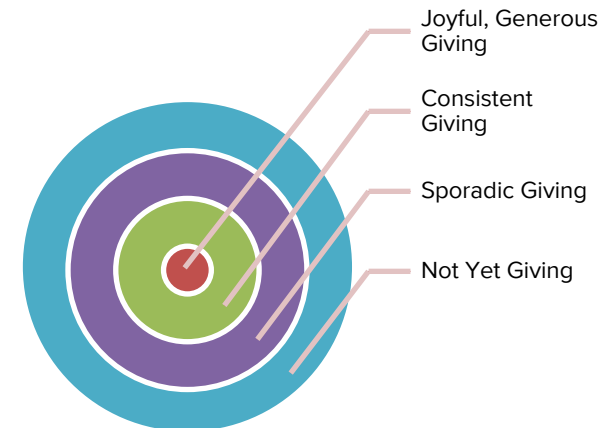
1. Joyful Generosity Is Rooted in the GRACE of God! (v. 1)
2. Joyful Generosity Is Motivated by the EXAMPLE of Others! (v. 2-4)

Macedonians' Joyful Generosity Shows Us

- Generosity is not necessarily related to INCOME: they were financially destitute.
- Generosity is not necessarily related to CIRCUMSTANCES: they were physically afflicted.
- Generosity is essentially related to the HEART: they freely gave with joyful generosity.

3. Joyful Generosity Is Linked to Giving MYSELF First to the Lord! (v. 5)
4. Joyful Generosity Is Evidence of GROWING in Jesus Christ! (v. 6-7)
5. Joyful Generosity Is a Response to the GOSPEL of Jesus Christ! (v. 8-9)

Where Are You in Giving to the Lord?



Exceling in Joyful Generosity

- IDENTIFY where you are in your giving to the Lord.
- ASK God, "Where do You want me to be in my giving?"
- MOVE at least one circle toward joyful, generous giving.