

Givin' What You're Given
"Treasure – Part 1"

GETTING STARTED

ICE BREAKER: Tell about a time you gave a gift to someone in need, and it brought you JOY.

KEY THOUGHT: ***Consider "how" before "how much."***

GETTING THE POINT

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

1. What does "bountiful," blessing-oriented giving look like?
2. Why do you think Paul uses an agricultural metaphor, sowing and reaping, to explain generosity? How does this imagery help you understand the concept of giving?
3. What does open-handed giving look like? (verses 8-11)
4. Financial giving can be compared to planting seeds, where not all seeds may grow. How can this idea of uncertainty encourage or challenge you in your giving?

GETTING DEEPER

Read 2 Corinthians 8:9

1. Describe in your own words the exchange illustrated in this verse.
2. How does God's generosity set the stage for the generosity He calls us to?

GETTING PERSONAL

1. When you think about the principle of "sowing bountifully" leading to "reaping bountifully," what kind of non-material blessings have you experienced as a result of being generous?
2. What practical steps can you take to cultivate a "cheerful" attitude towards giving?
3. The 2 Corinthians 8-9 situation illustrates how generosity can bridge cultural and ethnic divides, as seen in Paul's efforts to unite Jews and Gentiles. How can we practice generosity to foster unity in our communities today?
4. How would it change the way you approach generosity to first consider "how" to give before thinking about "how much" to give?
5. As we enter a season of giving, what specific ways can you apply the principles of bountiful, cheerful, and openhanded giving in your life or community?

PRAY...

that we will grow in our bountiful, cheerful, and openhanded generosity.