Open Hands WK3 - The Pressure and Pleasure of Giving

2 Corinthians 9:1-7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

_____ can steal the _____ of being _____.

Let the _____ of others _____ your _____.

_____ your giving _____ the moment _____.

Give from a _____, _____ heart — not _____.

_____ the _____ of _____ living.

MY NOTES | OBSERVATIONS | QUESTIONS

OPEN HANDS WK3: The Pressure and Pleasure of Giving — ADULT DISCUSSION

1. What is one thing from the message that God used to encourage, challenge, or grow you?

2. Whose generosity has inspired you to be generous? What happened? What can you learn from their example without comparing your resources or giving amounts?

3. How do public recognition, emotional appeals, or concern about others' opinions influence giving in our culture? How can we distinguish encouragement toward generosity from pressure to impress people?

4. Read 2 Corinthians 9:1–5. How had the Corinthians' eagerness influenced others? Why did Paul send the brothers ahead, and how could preparation help their promised offering remain a willing gift?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–7. What does Paul teach about both generosity and the heart behind it? How is cheerful, sacrificial giving different from giving reluctantly or expecting financial repayment from God?

6. Read 1 Corinthians 16:1–2. How did Paul connect regular preparation with each person's resources? How do you apply the principle while remaining open to unexpected opportunities to help?

7. What is one step you could take this week to prepare for generosity or renew the heart behind an established practice? How could that step help you support ministry or respond to someone's need?

OPEN HANDS WK3: The Pressure and Pleasure of Giving — YOUTH DISCUSSION

1. What is one thing from the message that stood out to you and why?

2. How might your response to a request for help change when friends are watching? What could help you focus on the need rather than how you look to others?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 9:1–5. What did Paul do to help the Corinthians get ready? What could preparing to share look like with money you earn or receive, or useful belongings you own?

4. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–7. What attitudes does Paul encourage and warn against? How could you give willingly even when sharing costs you something you would enjoy keeping?

5. We don't give to earn God's love. How could remembering His love and grace change the way you approach giving? What could you pray when you want to help but feel reluctant?

6. What is one practical step you can take this week to share with someone in need or participate in your church's ministry? Share with the group and pray for generous hearts shaped by God's grace.

Prayer Requests:

SOAP! Take a few minutes to SOAP through the passages referenced in the message. They're at the top of the notes page. You may want to include verses before or after the passage too.