

“The Spiritual Disciplines: Stewarding Generosity 2 Corinthians 9

Servant: (Websters definition) one that serves others, especially one that performs duties about the person or home of a master or personal employer.

Steward: one employed in a large household or estate to manage domestic concerns (eg. supervising servants, collecting rent, keeping of accounts).

2 Corinthians 9

¹There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the saints. ²For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action. ³But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you in this matter should not prove hollow, but that you may be ready, as I said you would be. ⁴For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we not to say anything about you would be ashamed of having been so confident. ⁵So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be as ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written:

*He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.*

¹⁰Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

¹²This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of Gods people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God¹³Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for you generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Four generosity principles:

1. Generosity benefits from friendly competition. 9:1-5
2. Generosity is about how you sow and reap. 9:6-12
3. Generosity is an evidence that ones a Christian. 9:13-14
4. Generosity moves us to worship Jesus Christ as God. 9:15