

Grace-Filled Generosity

Generosity #1 - Pastor Jonathan Minter - February 7, 2016 - 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

2 Corinthians 8:1-7 (ESV) ¹ 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.

How to Know the Grace-filled Generosity of God:

1. _____ the sacrificial gift of Christ.

John 1:12, 16 (ESV) But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ...from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

Ephesians 4:7 (ESV) But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Matthew 10:8 (NKJV) ...Freely you have received, freely give.

2. _____ by offering your whole life to God.

Romans 12:1 (ESV) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 5:2 (ESV) Through him [Jesus] we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3. _____ at generosity as God did in Christ.

Proverbs 22:9 (NKJV) He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (ESV) Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.

1 Peter 1:18-20 (NLT) For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.