



Introduction

? When have you experienced happiness over spending money on someone else rather than yourself? What benefit is there from spending on someone else that we don't get from spending on ourselves?

? Why is it easier to be selfish than to be generous? When is it the hardest to be generous? When does it come easily? Can you think of any examples or teachings in the Bible concerning generosity? How would you sum up the Bible's overall teaching about generosity?

1. Giving is Worship (Phil. 4:15-20)

? What did Paul mean by "the profit that is increasing to your account" in verse 17? How does this apply to us today?

? In verse 18, Paul tried to help them see that though he received the gift, it was actually an act of worship to God. Why would that be so?

? Application: According to this passage, what is the benefit of regular generosity? Why should we view our generosity as an act of worship to God?

2. Principles of Generous Living (2 Cor. 9:6-9)

? When we talk about a return on investment in Kingdom giving, do we mean dollars and cents? What is dangerous about making the basis of our investment returned money?



Do you think a Christian's attitude and posture matter when they give sacrificially and invest in Kingdom work?



Application: Do those close to you consider you to be a generous person? Is generosity reflected in both your heart and your hands? What needs to change?

3. Rewards of Generous Living (2 Cor. 9:10-14)



What is the connection between generosity and spiritual growth? How have you experienced this?



According to verse 12, how else does generosity result in spiritual growth? How did Paul describe their expression of gratitude? What characterized their thanksgiving?



Application: What motivates you to generosity? How is generosity connected to the gospel?

Conclusion



Are you a generous person? What are some specific ways you have been generous this past week? What were some missed opportunities of generosity?



Who do you find yourself being more generous toward? Why? Is there anyone to whom it is hard to be generous? How might you seek to grow in this area?



What does generosity have to do with seeking to have gospel conversations? Should you be generous also toward non-believers? Why or why not?

Daily Readings

- Monday - 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

- Tuesday - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

- Wednesday - 2 Corinthians 9:10-15

- Thursday - 1 Timothy 6:17-19

- Friday - Acts 20:32-35

- Saturday - 1 Chronicles 29:1-19