

## LIFE Community Sermon Notes



# *Give Till It Feels Good*

### 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (New International Version)

#### Sowing Generously

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."<sup>[a]</sup> 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 God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13Because 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 your 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!

## LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, Dec 2

### Big Idea:

### Key Verse:

**2 Corinthians 9:7**

*Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

**Opening Question:** What is the most significant thing that has happened to you in the past week?

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions.  
Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders.

Read the passage.

### Discussion Questions

1. **Bryan shared that the average American will receive 140 financial appeals in a year. How do you handle these appeals when you get them?**
2. **2 Cor 9:7 describes the type of giver we should be: “cheerful, thoughtful, considered, not reluctant or under compulsion”. Which descriptive word stands out positively to you? Which descriptive word makes you feel the most uncomfortable?**
3. **What do you think proportionate giving is? (*Bryan referenced 1 Corinthians 16:2*)**
4. How can giving become legalistic?
5. How can giving be an expression of your joy and generosity?
6. How do you feel when the offering plate comes your way?
7. How would your giving change if your attitude tried to answer “How much do I need to keep?” instead of “How much do I need to give?”
8. What are some of the expectations we can have when we give as God would like us to?
9. **The focus of this message and section is on financial giving, but the concept of generosity in giving is more than financial. God desires generous people in heart. He does not need our money, he desires our hearts committed to Him. What steps do you need to take to become a person who is generous at heart?**

### *Leader's Notes*

1. *The challenge with this study is evident. Your group should not feel obliged or manipulated into giving.. The last question is key to the study. We want the groups to be challenged in their hearts to be more generous.*
2. *Do not allow the group study to degenerate into a discussion on the validity of the sermon, and whether Grace should or should not preach on money. Rather focus on generosity and what it is that God desires from His people.*