

These questions are for the August 23, 2026, message, "Giving: the benefits." Please read the sermon passage (2 Corinthians 9:6-15) out loud.

Passage Outline

As we become cheerful givers, we treasure . . .

1. God's special love (6-7)
 - a) God loves a cheerful giver.
 - i. He doesn't want us to give reluctantly (pressure from inside us).
 - ii. He doesn't want us to give under compulsion (pressure from outside).
 - iii. He wants all His children to learn the joy of giving voluntarily.
 - b) Principle: Give generously in order to reap generously (Prov 11:24, Luke 6:38).
 - c) The ultimate gift: Hebrews 12:1-2. Jesus gave of himself joyfully, sacrificially.
2. God's "too-much-to-count" grace (8-11a)
 - a) When we become joyful givers, God multiplies gifts and gives more seed to sow.
 - b) Note how wisdom (how we put God's principles into practice) fuels us:
 - i. Worldly wisdom: give sparingly (live for money in this world).
 - ii. Wisdom from above: give generously and He will replenish what you give (live for God's kingdom). God will replenish your supply to give more.
3. A chorus of thanksgiving (11b-13)
 - a) Our generosity is an answer to prayer, the supply of a need, the fuel for ministry.
 - b) Fueling ministry / helping people is the source of eternal thanksgivings to God.
4. A community of deep friendship (14-15)
 - a) We do not buy friends, but we develop friends as we sacrifice together.
 - b) No single giver gets the glory; we cannot do without any single gift or giver.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: God loves a cheerful giver in a special way. He loves when we learn the virtue that makes us more like Him. Describe a parent's love for his or her flourishing adult son or daughter and how the relationship improves because of maturity / growth.
2. Based on #2, above: God blesses givers with more dollars to give. This can be a process, and there can be instances where we don't observe it. But, generally, this is how it works in God's kingdom: the givers receive more grace. How has this worked in your life?
3. Based on #3, above: The great thing that separates rebels from sons is a willingness to thank God (see Romans 1:18-21). When we give dollars to the needy and to Gospel ministry, we are fueling eternal thanksgivings and praise to God. He is a great King (Mal 1:14). How have your thanksgivings to God been fueled by the generosity of others?
4. Based on #4, above: How has learning to give and receive produced deeper friendships?