

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON "thanks-giving"

The Vineyard Church of Conroe
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November 20, 2017

Sermon Notes

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. ² Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:1-5

Thanksgiving OPENS US UP TO BE BETTER GIVERS IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

I. 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

When we become better Givers Psychologically OUR JOY INCREASES WITH OUR SELFLESS GENEROSITY

Offer sacrifices in the right spirit, and trust the Lord. ⁶ Many people say, "Who will show us better times?" Let your face smile on us, Lord. ⁷ You have given me greater joy than those who have abundant harvests of grain and new wine. Psalm 4:5-7

II. 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

¹⁰ Now 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. ¹¹ **You will be enriched in every way** so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

When we become better Givers Physically WE SHARE FREELY AND TRUST GOD TO MULTIPLY OUR RESOURCES AND PROVIDE OUR NEEDS

The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. Proverbs 11:24 MSG

III. 2 Corinthians 9:12-15

¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others 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. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the **surpassing grace God has given you.** ¹⁵ **Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

When we become better Givers Spiritually GOD'S TRANSFORMING GENEROSITY TO US NATURALLY OVERFLOWS TO OTHERS FOR HIS GLORY

Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little. Luke 7:47