

Entering the Extravagant Zone

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and **whoever sows generously will also reap generously**. 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**. 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...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. 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**. 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**.”

2 Corinthians 9:6 -12

Three Steps to Entering the Extravagant Zone

1. _____

*“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**.”*

Paying your tithe is obligatory, but generosity is your decision.

Generosity is not based on _____, it’s based on willingness.

Mark 12:41-44 “Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. Jesus called his disciples to him and said, ‘I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given **more than all the others** who are making contributions. For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.’”

Deuteronomy 15:10 “Give generously to the poor and do so **without a grudging heart**; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.”

2. _____

*“**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.”*

- Faith – that God will bless you.

Luke 19:26 “To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given.”

Psalms 58:11 “There truly is a reward for those who live for God; surely there is a God who judges justly here on earth.”

Proverbs 22:9 “The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.”

Psalms 112:5 “Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely.”

- Faith – that your gift will produce greater good than the good from keeping it. Acts 20:35 “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Proverbs 11:24-25 “One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.”

- Faith – that you will be rewarded in eternity. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 “Teach those who are rich in this world...to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.” Matthew 6:19-20, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.”

3. _____

*“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.**”*

1 John 4:19 “We love because he first loved us.”

John 7:47 “Her sins have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.”

1 Timothy 6:17 “God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

2 Corinthians 8:9 “You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.”

Titus 3:6 “He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior.”

1 John 3:1 “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!”

Luke 6:35-36 (The Message Bible) “Help and give without expecting a return. You’ll never - I promise - regret it. **Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously...**”

Memory Verse:

“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.” 2 Corinthians 9:8