



PART 1: MAKE IT RAIN

Sermon Notes

Text: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Introduction:

When we think of someone who is generous we think of someone who gives large sums of money to charity, but generosity has little to do with the amount and everything to do with the heart.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8:

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully[d] will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.”

1. Generosity has a Cost

Biblical generosity has to “hurt” a little

“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly”

Generosity is one of the purest demonstrations of the Gospel. Jesus became poor so we could become rich.

“Generosity is a matter of the heart, not the wallet.”

“You can give without loving, but you can’t love without giving.” – Rick Warren

2. Give Cheerfully

“Happiness comes from spiritual wealth, not material wealth...”

Happiness comes from giving, not getting. If we try hard to bring happiness to others, we cannot stop it from coming to us also. To get joy, we must give it, and to keep joy, we must scatter it.” – John Templeton

“Generosity is not something we want FROM you. It’s something we want FOR you.”

God provides for the needs of the generous.

“Generosity is a matter of the heart, not the wallet”

Conclusion:

Decide in your heart how much you ought to give...

Life Group Discussion

1. What, (or who), do you think of when you think of a generous person?

2. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9. What is happening in this passage? What is Paul asking?

- Discuss Jesus' example of generosity in verse 9. How does being generous imitate the gospel?
- Have you ever given away enough that you became "poor"?
- Have you ever given enough that it hampered personal comfort?
- Should personal comfort be sacrificed for generosity? Why or why not?

3. Now read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.

- How can you give beyond what is comfortable and still give "cheerfully"?
- What should motivate us to give?

4. When you do give, does the amount that you give matter? In what way(s)?

5. How is generosity more "a matter of the heart than the wallet"?

- What physical benefits are there to being generous?
- What spiritual benefits are there to being generous?

6. Pray together:

- a) Pray that God would make us generous people.
- b) Pray that we would give with the right motives.
- c) Other requests:
 -
 -
 -
 -