Why All These Sermons on Giving? Small Group Follow-up Study for 2 Corinthians 9:12-15

RE-READ

[12] For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. [13] By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, [14] while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. [15] Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

RECAP

Why is giving so important? Believe it or not, there are four reasons here for why giving is so important.

- Giving meets needs (v. 12).
- Giving proves the genuineness of your faith (v. 13).
- Giving unites Christians together in a strong bond of love for one another (v. 14).
- Giving glorifies God (vv. 12-15).

RESPOND

- 1. What caught your attention from Sunday's sermon? What are you still thinking about/mulling over? What questions did Sunday's sermon raise that remain unanswered in your mind?
- 2. Which of the three secondary points (needs met, proof given, or bond of love made) shined most for you and made you glad that they got some playing time in the sermon? Why?
- 3. Who among God's people should be the particular focus of our giving?
- 4. What is God's indescribable or inexpressible gift? How does it relate to all other gifts?
- 5. What is the new covenant standard of giving? How does it relate to tithing?
- 6. Take stock of what God has done through this series in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. What things will stick with you? Name the graces you have received and give the credit to God—grace be to God!
- 7. Given our discussion tonight, what sort of things should we be praying for our church?