

## Weekly Reflection 4<sup>th</sup> August 2026

### The Grace That Gives

Last Sunday we reflected on two remarkable passages: **Deuteronomy 24:10-22** and **2 Corinthians 9:1-15**. Both remind us that generosity is not simply about giving money; it is about reflecting the very character of God.

In Deuteronomy, Moses instructed God's people to leave part of their harvest in the fields for the foreigner, the widow, and the orphan. God was teaching Israel that everything they possessed was ultimately His gift, and that His blessings were never meant to stop with them. Their fields were to become places where God's compassion could be experienced by those in need.

Centuries later, the Apostle Paul encouraged the Christians in Corinth to give generously in support of believers facing hardship in Jerusalem. He did not appeal to guilt or obligation but to grace. "God loves a cheerful giver" because cheerful generosity is born from hearts that have first experienced God's abundant generosity.

Our sermon also reminded us of modern examples of generous living. Rob Hale's gift to graduating students was not only about giving away money; it was about inviting them to discover the joy of blessing someone else. Likewise, Dr. Ruth Gottesman's extraordinary gift to future medical students has opened doors of opportunity for generations to come. Both stories remind us that generosity has the power to change lives in ways we may never fully see.

We may not be able to give out millions of dollars, but every one of us has opportunities every day to leave "something in the field" for others.

This week, I invite you to pray a simple prayer each morning:

**"Lord, who have You placed in my path today, and how can I be a blessing to them?"**

Perhaps the answer will be:

- a phone call to someone who is lonely;
- a visit to a neighbour who has been unwell;
- words of encouragement to someone carrying a heavy burden;
- sharing a meal with a friend;
- helping someone without expecting anything in return;
- giving generously to the work of God's kingdom.

Generosity is not measured by the size of the gift but by the love with which it is given. Every act of kindness, however small, becomes a witness to the grace we have received in Jesus Christ.

As you go through this week, remember that God has already placed many gifts into your hands; your time, your abilities, your compassion, your experience, your resources, and your faith. Ask yourself: **How can these become a blessing to someone else?**

May we become a congregation known not simply for gathering on Sundays, but for carrying God's generosity into our homes, our workplaces, our neighbourhoods, and our community throughout the week.

*"You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us." - 2 Corinthians 9:11*