

**The Joy of Generosity**  
*Take God At His Word – Part 4*  
Full Life Church – September 20, 2009  
Pastor Dan Walker

*Isaiah 40:8 (NIV) The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.*

*Proverbs 28:22 (NIV) A stingy man is eager to get rich and is unaware that poverty awaits him.*

*Proverbs 11:24-25 (NIV) 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.*

**1. Be \_\_\_\_\_ to God**

*1 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV) Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.*

**1A. Desire to grow \_\_\_\_\_**

*1 Peter 2:2-3 (NIV) Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

**1B. Seek to grow in \_\_\_\_\_**

*2 Corinthians 8:2-3 (NIV) Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability.*

**2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ to our church family**

*Ephesians 2:19c (NLT) You are members of God's family.*

**2A. Generosity demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_**

*Acts 2:44-45 (NIV) All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.*

**2B. Your heart follows your \_\_\_\_\_**

*Matthew 6:21 (NIV) For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

**3. Make a \_\_\_\_\_ for eternity**

**3A. \_\_\_\_\_ faithfully**

*Galatians 6:7-8 (NIV) Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

**3B. Wait \_\_\_\_\_**

*Galatians 6:9 (NIV) Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

**3C. Reap \_\_\_\_\_**

*Psalms 126:5 (NIV) Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy.*

## Message Study Guide

### *The Joy of Generosity*

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(Answer questions based on the message outline and Chapter 4 of *Taking God at His Word* – available free at the Guest Table)

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

1. Why does God want His people to give?

Ephesians 3:20-21

2. Read 2 Kings 3:4-20, a fascinating story of God's partnership with His people. Note what God asked the Israelites to do. How much of God's provision was determined by the work the people did? Discuss the parallels to God's plan for His people today.

4. Imagine yourself as a member of the congregation in Henry Blackaby's story (pages 59-61). Would your response to the committee's decision create a "crisis of belief" for you? Why?

3. Read the following passages and identify attitudes God wants us to have about giving specifically, as well as God's provision in general. What results are promised in these passages?

5. How can we overcome crises of belief in our finances?

2 Corinthians 8:7-11