## Theology of Giving

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

* Rationale for giving. How should saints give? 6-7
  + Bountifully, 6
  + Deliberately, 7
  + Not reluctantly
  + Not under pressure
  + (Not manipulatively, greedily, 5)
  + Cheerfully, with joy
* Resources for giving, 8-11
  + Will God provide for you?
    - God is able to make all grace about to you, 8
    - He has distributed freely, 9
    - He who supplies seed and bread, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing 10
    - You will be enriched in every way, 11
  + Are you content?
    - How much is enough? Flowing stream or stagnant swamp?
    - God makes *all grace abound* to you, so that…
      * Having ALL CONTENTMENT, having enough
      * In all things
      * At all times
  + Why do you have resources?
    - So that you may abound in every good work? 8
    - He will increase the harvest of your righteousness, 10
    - You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, 11
* Results of giving, 11b-14
  + Your giving affects others
    - They will thank God, 11b, overflowing in many thanksgivings to God, 12
    - Their needs will be supplied, 12a
    - They will glorify God, 13
    - They will love you (long for you), 14
    - They will pray for you, 14
  + Your giving reveals your priorities
    - It is a way to submit to the leading of God, 13
    - It flows from your confession of the gospel of Christ, 13
    - Your generosity is first to the saints and then to all others, 13 (Gal 6:10)
  + Your giving ultimately is focused on God
    - Thanks to God, 11b
    - The ministry (deaconing) of this liturgy, 12
    - Glory to God, 13a
    - Prayers to God, 14a
    - Grace of God upon His servants, 14b
* Rejoice in God’s Giving! 15
  + God loved. So He gave.
  + Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!

Discussion Questions:

* What words describe your giving?
* What does your giving reveal about your deep beliefs?
* How can you cultivate a heart for the needs of others?