## 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?