

*Blessings from God*  
"Joyful Generosity – Part 1"  
Pastor Michael Lee  
June 7, 2009  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (ESV)

*The Kind of Giver that God Loves*

1. One who gives \_\_\_\_\_ .(v. 6)
2. One who gives \_\_\_\_\_.(v. 7a)
3. One who gives \_\_\_\_\_.(v. 7b)

*The Real Issue for God*

1. Generous/thoughtful/cheerful giving is not about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - God doesn't care about the dollar amount. The dollar amount is nothing more to God than an indicator of what's happening in my heart.
2. Instead, generous/thoughtful/cheerful giving is about the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - What's most important to God is that I give with a joyful heart.
  - The right thing with the wrong heart is a wrong thing. God is concerned with what's happening inside of me, not what I do externally.

*The Results of Giving with a Joyful Heart*

1. Joyful generosity prompts God to multiply my giving so that I experience an \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 8-11a).
  - The principle is: When I hold on tightly to what I've got and I hoard it, that's all I've got. But when I give it away, God multiplies it.
  - NOTE WELL: God multiplies my giving so that I can give more, and not so that I can keep the increase and make a "profit" for myself.

- As I bless others, God blesses me so that I can bless others further.
- The return is proportionate to the giving—the more I give, the more God enables me to give.

[TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK]

*Heart Check* (Circle your answer)

1. Do I give with a joyful heart – i.e. generously, thoughtfully & cheerfully?  
Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent
2. Am I blessings others more with the increase that God has blessed me with?  
Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Excellent

*Central Truth:*

I experience the blessings of God when I bless God and others through joyful generosity.

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. Then share and explain your response to Heart Check question #1 above. What makes it challenging or easy for you to give with a joyful heart?
2. When the Bible talks about giving, it's never talking about money. Instead, it's always talking about the heart. What does generous giving reveal about the heart? And thoughtful giving? And cheerful giving?
3. Giving with a joyful heart prompts God to multiply our giving so that we experience an increase. In 2 Cor. 9:6-15, underline all the words or phrases that talk about an increase.
4. Share a time when you gave with a joyful heart and God responded by multiplying your giving so that you experienced an increase.
5. Share and explain your response to Heart Check question #2 above. Do you tend to pocket the increase or use it to bless others more?
6. What one insight from the teaching seems most personally significant to you right now?
7. What action can you take in the next week to bring about transformation that you seek in yourself in response to Sunday's teaching?

\*\* CDs of today's message as well as previous weeks' sermons are available in the YNCC office. Sermons are also viewable online at [www.ynccla.org/sermons](http://www.ynccla.org/sermons).

