

Pastoral Notes

'Gods Stimulus Plan- Pt2'-
2Cor 9:5-8.

This week we moved from OT teaching on Tithing to NT (Grace Based) teaching on Generous giving. Tithing was a commandment but generous giving is a personal commitment.

If asked 'what is it that brings you joy', most people would respond with things they receive (gifts, favors, seeing success in children). Few put giving at the top of

There is a difference between 'gratuitous' and 'generous' giving. You are gratuitous when you give to another what they need more than you. You are **generous**, when you give to another, what you need more than them. Giving to God has always had an element of sacrifice.

When you give sparingly expect to reap a spare harvest. When you give generously expect to receive a generous harvest of blessing. There are more benefits giving to God than

Key Sermonic Points:

1. *Giving is Sacrificial*
2. *Giving is Consequential*
3. *Giving is Confidential*
4. *Giving is Beneficial*

their list. But while God may **like** a cheerful receiver, he **loves** a cheerful giver.

Have you ever considered that giving is a form of worship? The root word for worship is 'worth'. In the same way, you decide to tip based on the service you receive, when you give you are saying, God, this is what our relationship is worth. This is not to say you are putting a dollar value on God, but you are showing him how you value his blessings.

giving to anything or anyone else. God covers you better than Blue Cross because he covers you with the Old Rugged Cross. *If you're blessed & you know it then your giving ought to show it.*

Seek God on your level of giving. Visit our website, or get a CD, for more on this teaching.

Stay Blessed,
Pastor Robbie

Nuggets:

- Old Testament giving was based on one's 'responsibility' but New Testament (Grace Based) giving is based on ones 'desirability'.
- The Tithe is not a NT commandment but does serve as a benchmark of what denotes generosity.
- You giving may be an indication of how much you trust God
- Come to church prepared to give what you have decided in your heart.
- Religiosity is giving **because** you can. Generosity is giving **more than** you can.
- Give from your heart not your pocket.