

Abounding In This Grace Also Series

November 2, 2022

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Summary: Giving what God desires.

NHBC "Abounding In This Grace Also!!"

Intro.

I. Formula for successful giving. II Cor. 8:1-2

A. Giving is extending God's grace. V 1

(2 Corinthians 8:1) Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;

B. Giving is inspiring. V2

(2 Corinthians 8:2) How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.

Affliction + Joy + Poverty = Liberality

Notice the wording – great trial – abundance – deep = abounded riches

They were facing difficult circumstances.

They were rejoicing in the LORD.

They were under some hard economic pressure.

They stretched their giving to the extreme.

Not the lower limit but the highest limit.

Not the least the most.

II. Features of successful giving. V 3-7

A. Dynamic ability. V3

1. As they were able.

(2 Corinthians 8:3) For to their power, I bear record, yea,

2. Above what they were able.

and beyond their power; Power – root word of dynamite.

3. Activated personally.

The Trinity is involved in our giving.

a. Driven by Spirit.

This was self-generated. ‘They were willing of themselves’

I believe the Holy Spirit moved the heart to provide the gift.

b. Dedicated to Lord.

(2 Corinthians 8:5) And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord,

This talks about commitment. This means total involvement.

c. Directed by God.

He moved the heart in the provision.

and unto us by the will of God.

B. Determined ability. II Cor. 8:4

1. Prayerfully considered.

(2 Corinthians 8:4) Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift,

2. Personal involvement in giving

and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

Realized the object of the gift of giving by grace.

3. Performed as promised. V10-12

a. Planned to give. 10

(2 Corinthians 8:10-12) And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago.

b. Practiced giving. V11-12

Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have. For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

III. Focus of successful giving. V 6-8

A. Finish the giving.

(2 Corinthians 8:6) Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.

‘JUST DO IT’

B. Fruitfulness of giving.

(2 Corinthians 8:7) Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

C. Facts of giving.

(2 Corinthians 8:8) I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love.

It reveals the heart condition and genuineness of your love.

Conclusion: (2 Corinthians 8:13-15)

For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened: But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality: As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.

Giving helps meet the needs of others, both in local ministry and on the mission field. The conclusion is that at the end giving genuinely and graciously we will hear the words “Well Done Thou Good and Faithful Servant” You did what you could with what I have given you.

The blessing of giving is God saying ‘Thank You’ for giving what I gave you.