

MESSAGE NOTES | MARCH 24 2019



The Joy of Generosity
Roger Ellis, Lead Pastor
2 Corinthians 9:7, p. 807

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a *cheerful giver*."

2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV

How do I know if I am a cheerful giver? What does it look like?

1. My generosity is an expression of ***my belief*** in the mission. (Luke 8:1-3)
 2. My generosity is motivated by ***my compassion*** for others. (Luke 10:33-35)
 3. My generosity is my declaration of what I believe to be ***most important in life***. (Luke 12:15-21)
 4. My lack of generosity reveals that ***my faith is phony***. (Luke 18:22-23)
 5. My generosity springs from ***a heart of gratitude***. (Luke 19:8-9)
- (2 Corinthians 8:9; Isaiah 53:10; Hebrews 12:2; 2 Corinthians 9:15)

THE ONE THING: *generosity brings joy.*

Miss something? Completed sermon notes are available online. Binders to organize your sermon notes are available at the upstairs Welcome Desk.

NEXT STEPS

- Memorize 2 Corinthians 9:7.
- How would _____ describe your generosity?
- "Give until it hurts" or "Give until it _____"
- Go public for Jesus (baptismal service on April 28)

NOTES FOR PERSONAL & SMALL GROUP STUDY

KEEPING IT REAL

- 1** Have you ever received a birthday or Christmas gift from a young child? Describe the child's excitement and sense of anticipation as you received and opened the gift.

LOOK AT THE BOOK

- 2** Paul talks about being cheerful (joyful, eager to participate) in giving in 2 Corinthians 9:6-12. He also describes the Lord providing the wherewithal to give. Discuss this passage.

- 3** Regarding King David's plan to build the temple, read and discuss 1 Chronicles 29:1-17, particularly verses 9 and 17, as they relate to giving to the Lord. (This will be familiar to those who recently participated in CBE.)

TAKING IT FURTHER

- 4** Have you resolved to give freely and cheerfully to the Lord when you give? If you struggle in this area, why don't you go ahead and make that resolve to give cheerfully—whatever the amount—and then actively look for God's grace to abound as you do (2 Corinthians 9:8).

WORSHIP LYRICS

If you'd like to spend more time with the lyrics from any of the songs this morning, please click on the song title below to continue worshipping.

[How Great is Our God](#)

[Living Hope](#)

[Yours](#)

[My Heart is Yours](#)

[Jesus Paid It All](#)