



11 October

2 Corinthians 9:1-9: The Generosity of the Church

Introduction

A key application of this passage is that we should give cheerfully, “not reluctantly or under compulsion” (v. 7). Paul is not promising financial wealth through generous giving. Rather, he assures believers that God will provide what they need so that they can continue to “abound in every good work” (v. 8). Throughout these verses, Paul emphasises that Christian generosity flows from God's grace and our trust in His provision. He encourages the Corinthians to fulfil their commitment to the collection for the believers in Jerusalem, giving willingly and trusting God to supply their needs.

By quoting Psalm 112:9, Paul shows that generosity towards those in need has long been a mark of righteous living among God's people. Generosity is not merely about giving money; it reflects a heart transformed by God's grace and trust in His faithfulness. This passage challenges us to consider not only how much we give, but also the attitude of our hearts, our faithfulness in keeping our commitments, and our confidence in God's sufficiency.

The Principle of Generosity (2 Corinthians 9:1-5, 9)

Old Testament Link: In verse 9, Paul quotes Psalm 112:9: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.”

- Q1. Paul says that the Corinthians' enthusiasm had inspired others, yet he still sent brothers ahead to ensure they were prepared (vv. 2-5). Why is good intention not enough when it comes to ministry and generosity?
- Q2. The Corinthians had already made a commitment to participate in this collection. What does this passage teach us about following through on commitments we make to God, the church, and one another?

The Heart of the Giver (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

Old Testament Link: Paul's statement that “God loves a cheerful giver” echoes Exodus 25:2 and 1 Chronicles 29:9.

- Q3. Verse 6 uses the picture of sowing and reaping. In what ways do we sometimes sow sparingly with our time, encouragement, service, or finances? What might a generous harvest look like?
- Q4. Why do you think God values a cheerful heart more than a large gift given reluctantly?

God's Sufficiency for Generosity (2 Corinthians 9:8-9)

Paul teaches that God is able to provide everything believers need so that they can abound in every good work.

- Q5. Verse 8 says God is able to provide all that you need so that you may abound in every good work. How does trusting God's sufficiency help us deal with financial worries, uncertainty, or fear of the future?
- Q6. According to verses 8-9, why does God provide abundance? How is His provision connected to serving others rather than simply increasing our personal comfort?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, Thank You for Your faithfulness and provision. Grow in us hearts that trust You, love others, and give generously. Help us to be cheerful givers who reflect Your grace and bring glory to Your name. Amen.

This study has been prepared with reference to evangelical commentaries and study resources, including Matthew Henry, John Piper's teaching ministry, and the Thompson Chain-Reference Bible.



18 October 2026

2 Corinthians 9:10-15 God's Indescribable Gift

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" – 2 Corinthians 9:15

Introduction

As Paul concludes his teaching on Christian generosity, he directs our attention beyond financial giving to God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ. Matthew Henry, John Piper, and Nicky Gumbel all emphasize that Christian generosity ultimately flows from God's grace displayed in Christ.

God Supplies and Multiplies (vv. 10-11). God is the source of all we have. He provides both what we need and what we can share with others. God's blessings are intended to make His people a blessing to others, producing a harvest of righteousness.

Generosity Brings Glory to God (vv. 12-14). Christian generosity meets needs, demonstrates genuine faith, strengthens unity among believers, and leads to thanksgiving and prayer.

The Indescribable Gift (v. 15), Matthew Henry identifies God's indescribable gift as Jesus Christ. John Piper teaches that Jesus is not simply the giver of blessings but the greatest blessing Himself. Nicky Gumbel reminds us that all Christian generosity is a response to God's generosity in giving His Son.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does Paul's teaching on God's provision challenge modern attitudes toward wealth, ownership, and security?
2. What does Paul mean by a "harvest of righteousness," (verse 10) and how does it differ from material prosperity?
3. How does Christian generosity provide evidence of genuine gospel faith and obedience?
4. How does generosity strengthen relationships and unity within the body of Christ?
5. Why does Paul conclude a passage about giving by focusing on Jesus Christ rather than generosity itself?
6. In what ways can Christians' value God's gifts more than the Giver, and how can we guard against this?
7. How does Paul's description of generosity challenge the way our culture measures success, blessing, and significance?
8. In what ways does the truth of God's indescribable gift in Christ provide both the motivation and the model for Christian generosity?

Key Application:

Christian generosity is not primarily about money; it is a response to grace. Because God has given us His indescribable gift in Jesus Christ, we can live with open hands, generous hearts, and thankful lives.

Personal Reflection:

- Share a time when God provided for you, used you to bless someone else, or taught you something through an act of generosity. What did you learn about God through that experience?
- As you reflect on God's indescribable gift in Jesus Christ, what is one area of your life where God may be calling you to greater trust, gratitude, or generosity?

Spend Time in Prayer

- Thank God for His indescribable gift, Jesus Christ.
- Ask God to help us trust Him as our provider.
- Pray for generous hearts that reflect God's grace to others.
- Ask God to produce a greater harvest of righteousness in our lives, our Life Group, and our church.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for providing everything we need and for the privilege of sharing Your blessings with others. Help us to be generous, faithful, and grateful people who reflect Your grace in our daily lives. Above all, thank You for Your indescribable gift, Jesus Christ. May we treasure Him above all else and live in a way that brings glory to You. Amen.