Part 4
Giving Generously
2 Cor 8:1-7  pg 820
The Path

• Worshipping Weekly
• Gathering In A Group
• Serving On A Ministry Team
• Giving Generously
• Living On Mission
• Sharing Near and Far
Giving Generously

• Time: Limited and precious, We all have the same amount
• Talent: The abilities and gifts God gives each of us
• Treasure: The money and finances we are given
• Gospel: The message of God’s grace to a lost world

**Steward:** Someone who manages another persons goods, property, estate, business and/or finances.
GG Is About An Attitude Of Overflow
NOT A Calculation of Amount.

• Grace: Undeserved favor

• Overflowing Joy: Abundance, exceeding in amount, happiness

• Circumstance: Severe Trials and Extreme Poverty

• Rich Generosity: Overflowing liberal capacity, Full and open hand
The “Rich Generosity” Equation

\[(AG + OJ) \times (ST + EP) = RG\]

\[\begin{align*}
AG &= \text{Attitude of Grace} \\
OJ &= \text{Overflowing Joy} \\
ST &= \text{Severe Trial} \\
EP &= \text{Extreme Poverty} \\
RG &= \text{Rich Generosity}
\end{align*}\]
GG Is An Attitude Of Exceeding My Ability And Tapping Into God’s Supply

• FIRST: They gave UP to their ability

• THEN: They gave BEYOND their ability

The question is NOT what is MY ability. It is what is GOD’S ability through me! Not how much can I do, but what can HE do!

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we could ever ask or imagine...”

Eph 3:20
GG Is An INTERNAL Motivation, Not An EXTERNAL Manipulation

- **Origin:** Entirely on their own
- **Desire:** They urgently pleaded to give
- **Action:** First they gave themselves

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-- this is your reasonable act of worship.”

Rom 12:1
Apply The Equation:

- **Time:** “Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.”  
  Col 4:5

- **Talent:** “But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.”  
  1Co 12:18

- **Treasure:** On the first day of every week, each of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income”  
  1Co 16:2

- **Gospel:** “On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel.”  
  1Th 2:4

\[(AG + OJ) \times (ST + EP) = RG\]
Questions for Today…

• When you think of giving...is it ONLY money?

• What is YOUR Attitude toward giving?

• What equation are YOU using?