

SERMON OUTLINE

THE MARK OF FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-12

AUGUST 28, 2022

"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?" – 1 John 3:17

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." – Hebrews 13:16

"If anyone is poor among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward them.⁸ Rather, be openhanded and freely give them whatever they need." – Deut. 15:7-8

"Therefore, do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God." – 1 Corinthians 4:5

THE SPECTRUM OF STEWARDSHIP



Five Indicators of Open-ended Generosity

1. Quit the comparison game
2. High level of joy while giving
3. Increased giving
4. Generosity is a lifestyle not only done out of abundance
5. Stop asking how much and ask what am I not giving and why?

Four Aspects of Generosity

1. Generosity begins with the heart: vs. 7
2. Generosity understands God is never in need: vs. 8-10
3. Generosity is joyfully open-handed not selfishly close-fisted: vs. 11, 13
4. Generosity leads to a lifestyle of gratitude: vs. 11b-12

Benediction: "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?... in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." – Romans 8:32, 37-39