

**LifeGroup Study Sheet**

Feb 9th – Why the Blessed Give

This guide is designed to help you prepare for your group discussion.

**Quick Review**

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything this week that really stood out to you? Was there anything that was brand new to you or something God made very clear to you this week?

**Introduction**

1. What similarities and differences do you see between how your family growing up approached money and how you approach them as an adult?
2. Which ones are positive and which ones are not?

**Digging In****Read 2 Corinthians 9**

Pastor Jeff summarized the sermon series in two sentences: “Jesus blesses us so that we will bless others. Therefore, let go of the earthly and invest it eternally!”

**Verse 6 – *God rewards a Generous Giver.***

1. How have you seen the principle of sowing and reaping work in your life? How is this principle different from the worldly idea of “karma?”
2. **Read Galatians 6:7-10.** Paul talks about sowing and reaping according to the flesh or to the Spirit. How does our motivation for giving matter when it comes to sowing and reaping?

**Verse 7 – *God loves a Cheerful Giver.***

3. Pastor Jeff talked about the Old Testament principles of tithing. Jews were required to tithe 10% to the Levites and the temple (**Numbers 18:21, 24**), 10% of their grain and livestock (**Duet 14: 22-23**), and a third tithe taken every 3 years for the poor (**Duet 14:28-29**). That’s somewhere around 23% each year! Do you think it would be possible for you to be a cheerful giver if you were “required” to give “X” amount of your resources? Why or why not?
4. The New Testament church is not under the Old Testament Law anymore because Jesus fulfilled it on our behalf (**Matthew 5:17-18**). Jesus does not abolish the law but sets the standards on an even higher plain. **Read Matthew 5: 21-22; 27-28.** How does Jesus do this when it comes to murder and adultery?
5. Jesus does not “abolish” tithing but sets it on an even higher plain. He doesn’t give a percentage or a specific requirement. God says, it comes down to the decision you’ve made in your own heart (**2 Cor 9:7**). Does this make giving harder for you or easier?

**Verse 8-11 - *God supplies the Purposeful Giver***

6. The sowing and reaping principle is brought back up again. What is the purpose of God increasing the harvest of the reaper? How does this relate to becoming a generous giver in your life?

**Verse 12-15 - *God is praised by the Christ-like Giver***

7. How have you seen God use your generosity to bless others? Have you ever seen God be glorified by others through your own generosity?

**Taking it Home**

1. Last week you were encouraged to find a practical way to be generous with your money for that week. How can you create a plan of habitual giving for your life or your family with your money?

**Praise / Prayer Requests**

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