

	GENEROSITY —II CORINTHIANS 8-9 im Gerlach jim@ovbc.net 7.21.13 9:30 & 10:50 a.
W SEE	
	od wants his children "to excel in the
kn	ut since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in nowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have ndled in you —see that you also excel in this grace of giving II Corinthians. 8:7
1.	is the most generous giver ever
	For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. II Corinthians 8:9
	Generosity is measured by
2.	Grace giving must come from a heart.
	¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. II Corinthians 8:11-12
2	Cross giving requires

3. Grace giving requires _

that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, ¹⁵ as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little." II Corinthians 8:14-15

4.	Grace giving is offered and returned
	⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ 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. Il Corinthians 9:6-7
W	ays to be a cheerful giver:
	Remember what Jesus has you.
	Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17
	Realize giving lives, God and you.
	⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. II Corinthians 9:8,13
	My Next Step Today: ☐ Thank Jesus for His amazing generosity to you. ☐ Ask God to help you excel in the grace of giving. ☐ Give sacrificially for God's glory and the good of others. ☐ Pick up a prayer band and pray for our Student Mission Team in Cottonwood, AZ.

¹⁴ At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so