

Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of February 14, 2016

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

These questions are to be used as a spring board for discussion.

Answers may or may not be found in the sermons.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

New Living Translation (NLT)

⁶*Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. ⁷You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” ⁸And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. ⁹As the Scriptures say,*

*“They share freely and give generously to the poor.
Their good deeds will be remembered forever.”*

4. What factors determine if a gift is given grudgingly or cheerfully?

5. How are our blessings like seed (verse 10)? Who supplies it, and what happens when we use it properly?

6. What two good results would come from the Corinthians' gift (verses 11 and 12)?

7. To whom did the Corinthians contribute (verse 13)?

8. What relationship did Paul anticipate resulting between givers and receivers (verse 14)?

9. Jesus spoke often about money. How can wealth stand in the way of following God's will?