

Gratitude ON THE MOVE: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15, 10/24/24, Congregational Sunday

[During Baptism at 10:30 service] Happy Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving really is the theme of today. Today is a day of gratitude, joy and celebration to God in our individual lives, and the life of our church. So today, in addition to worshiping God through powerful music, prayer, and the Word of God, we will hear from several ministry leaders who will share encouraging reports about how the Spirit is ON THE MOVE in our church. We get to welcome 16 new members into membership. At the 10:30am we get to celebrate 6 baptisms spanning about 80 years of life.

[Sermon] Over the last five weeks we have been in our Vision Series, ON THE MOVE: Kingdom Investors looking at Jesus' parables about generosity as we are calling our church to a season of financial commitment and generosity, supporting our building campaign, which culminated in Commitment Sunday last week. Amazing, at last count we had 289 financial commitments adults, 74 students, 80 kids, about 60-70% of our church has made a commitment, which is incredible. We are well on our way to our goal of 5.5M committed over 36months. And because we are striving for 100% participation, there are still commitments that are coming in over the next couple weeks, so we will build the anticipation, just a little longer. We are going to wait to share the total number until December 8, **December 8 is Initial Investment Sunday**. If you are able, to begin giving to ON THE MOVE based on your commitment. If you haven't already made your commitment and would like to, you can do so Online- www.brandywine.church/onthemove or use the commitment cards at the table in the lobby.

What I want to do for just a few minutes is encourage you from the Word of God by sharing the amazing ripple effect your generosity is having and will have into eternity. **2 Corinthians 9:7,10-15** *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.*

10 *Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply*

and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

11 *You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion,*

and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

12 *This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.*

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.

14 *And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.*

15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

1- Generosity by faith: v.7 *"cheerful giver"*

- We give financially from what we have from a heart of worship.

2- God's Blessing: v.10 *"storehouse of seed and harvest of righteousness"*

- God supplies and multiplies the resources we use to give.
- Seed (financial provision)
- Our acts of generosity result in a harvest of righteousness.
- A "harvest of righteousness" refers to the visible fruit of a life of generosity. When we give generously, it shapes our character, deepening our trust in God and cultivating virtues like love, kindness, and selflessness.

3- Increased Generosity v.11 *"Enriched to give in every way"*

- Individuals have a need
- Church
- Local and Global Missions

4- Thanksgiving to God v.11-12,15 4x- *"thanksgiving/praise to God"*

- Those who receive the gifts give thanks to God for His provision through us. Results in gratitude and recognition that God sees them! A Christian brother I know was going through a really difficult season- He got let go from his job, struggling to make ends meet and then got into a bad accident, totaled his car, was in the hospital for a while recovering. And he was just struggling in faith, wondering if God really sees him. Someone who didn't even know him personally but heard what was going on, the Lord put it on their heart to provide a new car for him. But not only gave him the car, but a message that accompanied it: "This car is just a small way for God to remind you that he sees you, loves you and will never leave you." What this did in his faith? Thanksgiving to the Lord.
- Ripple effect of thanksgiving and Glory to God.

5- Blessings Multiplied v.12-13 *"Not only supplying, but also overflowing in thanksgiving"*

- The abundant grace that God has given us will overflow into the lives of many others too, if we pass it on. Generosity is contagious! Generosity pays forward, flows into others lives. People who have been blessed, bless others. People who have been served, serve others. People who have been provided for, provide for others. Isn't this what we are seeing with ON THE MOVE?

6- Love and Prayer Returned v.14 *"prayers and heart go out to you"*

- Great way to have prayer partners. Those who receive your gift will pray for you with heartfelt gratitude and love.
- And the ripple just continues...

Example How this overflows-

Rio and Renata missionaries in South East Asia some of the most unreached people groups. Just sent us a letter- in it they share of the fruitful gospel work, surveying unreached peoples, and seeing discipleship happen, they also share joy and praise report, we are funding the mission work on Sanggau Sekadau, a completely unreached people group. Praise God- first indigenous person on a completely unreached island for Christ- man S.

“Thank you so much for all of you that pray and support us as your missionary in the field. Your prayer and support are significant to enable us to keep doing the works of the Lord in the mission field. We prayed that our Lord would grant you a rich blessing for everything you gave to support us and this ministry. We were so humbled to know that we have supporters that faithfully pray and back us up. God knew many of you gave the support sacrificially and surely, He will bless you abundantly in return. I continue to pray for you and for your beloved nation of USA that God will send His great revival again and bring many people to a true repentance and growing to know Christ in a more intimate way. I pray that all of you also will experience His protection and a great measure of God’s love and His goodness in your own personal lives. I believe God will do great things in this moment of time. He invited you and I to be a part of His extended loving hands to help and save many people that need the Lord. Amen.”

Imagine when the renovations are done and paid for by our generosity, the imagine the ripple effect over the next 10-20-30 years. The children and families, the individuals. You get to be part of that.