



"Growing in Generosity" 2 Corinthians 8 :1-15

2 Corinthians 8:2
"Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity."

THE CATALYST: *JOY*

_____ + _____ = **Generosity**

***Mark 12:41-44** (The Widow's Offering)

*Joy is not logical

*Joy is not a feeling, it is a _____ of soul that accompanies faith

***Psalms 16:11**

*Macedonians gave:

- Beyond their ability
- Because they wanted to
- Because they considered it a privilege

*Some improper motivations for giving:

- Guilt
- Greed

***1 Corinthians 13:3**

THE CRUX: *GRACE*

POVERTY + JOY (GRACE) = GENEROSITY

Grace: God's unmerited favor toward humanity and especially his people, realized through the covenant and fulfilled through Jesus Christ. (Eerdman's)

*Generosity is important because it is at the _____ of the _____

✝ → GRACE → JOY → GENEROSITY

***Hebrews 12:2**

THE CRITERION: *EQUALITY*

* □ **σότης** – fairness/equality

***Exodus 16:13-20**

***KEY** – "He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little"

*Wealth is an _____ for _____

***Matthew 20:1-16** (Parable of the Workers)

***Galatians 3:26-28**

2 Corinthians 8:9

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."