

An illustration on a textured, light-colored background. Three hands of different skin tones (light, dark, and medium) are shown holding a small globe of the Earth. The globe is colored with green for land and blue for water. The word "BUILDING" is written in large, bold, black capital letters across the globe. Overlaid on this is the word "Mapper" in a bright blue, cursive script font.

BUILDING

Bringing the Infinite into Our Finite World

Giving: Pouring Out What God Has So Generously Put In



As we receive God's many blessings, we should pass them along to others in generosity.



“But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”

2 Corinthians 8:7-9



“I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others.”

2 Corinthians 8:7-9



“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.”

2 Corinthians 8:7-9



A. The Model is Jesus



“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing....”

Philippians 2:5-8



“He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not, with him also, graciously give us all things?”

Romans 8:32



How do we respond to the generosity of
God, the generosity of Christ, who gave it
all away for our sake?



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A lack of gratitude will result in a corresponding lack of generosity.



B. The Motivation is Love



“I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others.”

2 Corinthians 8:8



Love is the motivation for generosity.



Our excuse is that people give generously because they have a lot of time, talents, or money.



“Brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches.”

2 Corinthians 8:1



“Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.”

2 Corinthians 8:2



“For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of **sharing in this service** to the saints.”

2 Corinthians 8:3



C. Maturity is Our Goal



“Just as you excel in everything—in faith,
in speech, in knowledge, in complete
earnestness, in your love for us—**see that
you also excel in this grace of giving.**”

2 Corinthians 8:3



1. Give Your Gifts
2. Give Your Abilities
3. Give Your Time
4. Give Your Energy



5. Give Your Experiences

6. Give Your Enthusiasm

7. Give Your Finances



Giving generously is a Christ-like characteristic that we are to grow into.



It is with increasing measures that we lovingly share our God-given giftedness, abilities, time, energy, experiences, enthusiasm, and finances for the glory of God and for the good of others.





BUILDING

hope