Joy in the Generosity Journey More Than Enough – Part 3 September 21, 2025

Where is your life between Empty and Abounding? Empty-----Abounding

2 Corinthians 9:6 (NIV) "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

Farmers do not look at seeds for what they are.

They look at them for what they will produce when planted.

Paul is making a case for a mindset that money is no longer just something you use, but it is now a seed that you can plant.

What you keep is all you have. But what you sow, God multiplies.

Three Money Mindsets

1. It is all from me and all for me.

Luke 12:15-21 (NIV) "Then He said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.'

- ¹⁶ And He told them this parable: 'The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, 'What shall I do?' I have no place to store my crops.'
- ¹⁸ Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'
- ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' ²¹ This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

2. The first belongs to God.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV) "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; ¹⁰ then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

3. I'm a living sacrifice.

Romans 12:1 (NIV) "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship."

Luke 9:23-24 (NIV) "Then He said to them all: 'Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross <u>daily</u> and follow Me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Me will save it."

Luke 9:25 (NIV) "What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?"

What is becoming unmistakably clear to me is that the destination is about giving my whole life.

It's all from & for me/The first belongs to God/I'm a living sacrifice

The journey of joyful generosity starts with a decision.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NASB) "Each one must do just as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

We are not the only ones who are waiting. I believe God is waiting on us to just decide.

kardia: the center and seat of your Spiritual life, the fountain from which your thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, and affections flow. It is your soul.

Dallas Willard

"The most important thing in your life is not what you do, it's who you become."

Matthew 6:21 (NIV) "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

What you spend your time and money on tells the truth about your heart.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV) "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."

2 Corinthians 9:9 (NIV) "As it is written: 'They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.'"

2 Corinthians 9:10 (NIV) "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."

Giving is a Spiritual discipline.

Spiritual disciplines are not religious obligations.

Why does God love a cheerful giver?
It is because He is one.