



2 Corinthians 9

13 *By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, **14** while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. **15** Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!* (ESV)

1. Reconsider _____ (v.15)

2. Push _____ (v.13)

3. Know _____ (vv.13-14)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **2 Corinthians 9:6-7**. True "generosity" describes willing and cheerfully-given gifts. In what situations do people think themselves generous when in fact they are giving out of compulsion, necessity, or guilt?
2. Read **2 Corinthians 8:1-7**. How would you say you are doing in excelling in your generosity? Think beyond just your financial giving (but start there). What are some of your challenges when it comes to being a sacrificial giver?
3. Read **1 John 3:14-18**. What are some examples of loving people in practical and costly ways that bring you assurance that God is at work in your life?
4. Read **2 Corinthians 9:15**. Consider what God has done for you. What does pondering the depth of that answer do for your giving, serving, and sacrifice?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

December 22nd
Nah. 1-3 & Rev. 13
December 23rd
Hab. 1-3 & Rev. 14
December 24th
Zeph. 1-3 & Rev. 15
December 25th
Hag. 1-2 & Rev. 16
December 26th
Zech. 1-3 & Rev. 17
December 27th
Zech. 4-6 & Rev. 18
December 28th
Zech. 7-9 & Rev. 19
December 29th
Zech. 10-12 & Rev. 20

This Week's Compass 20/20 Discussion Question

- Read **Philippians 2:1-11**. How does this pattern of sacrifice for the benefit of others apply to our investment in Compass 20/20? What are some of the specific good things you can imagine coming from our generosity in this case?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

Msg. 07-35 – **Contentment Instead of Materialism**
Msg. 14-38 – **Living Above the Clutter**
Msg. 12-06 – **The Encouragement of Mutual Support**
Msg. 11-07 – **Excelling in Generosity**
Msg. 08-05 – **Finding Peace in the Storm of Materialism**
Msg. 17-09 – **Providing Godly Encouragement to Your Friends**
Msg. 16-02 – **The Fear of Having Nothing**

This Sermon's Social Media Hashtag

#ChristmasAtCompass

Social Media Connections:

CompassChurch



FocalPointRadio



PastorMike

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Alcorn, Randy. **The Treasure Principle**. Multnomah Books, 2001.
Allender, Dan and Tremper Longman. **Bold Love**. Reprint. NavPress, 1993.
Bunyan, John. **All Loves Excelling**. Banner of Truth, 1998.
Beale, G. K. **We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry**. InterVarsity Press, 2008.
Blomberg, Craig L. **Neither Poverty nor Riches: A Biblical Theology of Possessions**. InterVarsity Press, 1999.
Burroughs, Jeremiah. **The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1981.
Cortines, John & Gregory Baumer. **God and Money: How We Discovered True Riches at Harvard Business School**.
Getz, Gene. **Rich in Every Way: Everything God Says About Money & Possessions**. Howard Books, 2010.
Grudem, Wayne. **Business to the Glory of God: The Bible on the Moral Goodness of Business**. Crossway, 2003.
Henry, Matthew. **The Pleasantness of a Religious Life: A Puritan's View of the Good Life**. Christian Focus, 1998.
Nash, Ronald. **Poverty and Wealth: The Christian Debate Over Capitalism**. Crossway, 1986.
Priolo, Lou. **Selfishness: From Loving Yourself to Loving Your Neighbor**. P & R Publishing, 2010.
Smith, Christian. **Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away More Money**. Oxford Press, 2008.
Swindoll, Charles. **Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living**. Reprint. Word, 2002.