

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 (NIV)

Receive From Me

What are you doing? I'm planting. **What are you planting?** I'm planting your word in my life. **You are? I thought I did the planting.** Well, you do. I probably meant that I am here with you in your word so that I can allow you to plant it in my life. **You could choose to be a thousand different places right now.** Yes, I could. **But, you're not.** Nope. **Why not?** You have called and drawn me to this place. There is no place that I would rather be than right here, right now, with you. **I'm very pleased to hear that. Why do you think that is?** It certainly isn't because of me. I have a hard time sitting still for five minutes. It's a miracle really that you have placed this desire within me to be with you in your word. **Yes, it is.**

What is happening to you as my word is being richly planted in you? You are changing me. It's not something that happens over night, but little by little you are molding and shaping my life with your word. I'm beginning to think your thoughts and feel your feelings. **Yes, you are.** You have given me new desires. I want what you want. It is now my delight to serve you.

Tell me about your new desires. It is my desire to help others grow closer to you. I want to encourage them to meet with you so that they can feast on your word and hear all that you want to say to them. **So, you're sharing my word with others?** Yes, I am. **In this process of you digging into my word and sharing it with others, what is happening to you?** I am being blessed even more. **How so?** You are overflowing my life with your goodness. I'm growing and changing even more. As I give to others I am receiving as much and even more back in return. You are bearing fruit in my life and in your kingdom. I feel like a well-watered tree planted next to a stream. You are making me vibrant, joyful, and fruitful for you. The weariness that I once felt so frequently is gone. I have a new excitement that I have never felt before. I look forward to walking with you and serving others every day. It is my delight to bear fruit for you. **Yes, I can see that. You are very right about something.** What's that? **You have and are experiencing a miracle. I am using you to bear fruit for me. As you give to others, you will continue to receive even more from me.**

Lord, you have blessed my life so I am able to cheerfully and generously give to others. Help me to say yes to you and to the needs of others. Protect me from being stingy. Help me to decide in my heart to give and sow bountifully. Amen

Wisdom *Reap Generously*

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

NIV 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Get A Generous Crop*

Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever."

NLT 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Reap Bountifully*

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

NRSV 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Reap Generously*

[Remember] this: he who sows sparingly and grudgingly will also reap sparingly and grudgingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to someone] will also reap generously and with blessings. Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind and purposed in his heart, not reluctantly or sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in, prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, "prompt to do it") giver [whose heart is in his giving]. And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]. As it is written, He [the benevolent person] scatters abroad; He gives to the poor; His deeds of justice and goodness and kindness and benevolence will go on and endure forever!

AMP 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Reap Bountifully*

Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; as it is written, "HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR, HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER."

NASB 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Reap Bountifully*

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

ESV 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Reap Bountifully*

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."

NKJV 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Gets A Lavish Crop*

Remember: A stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving. God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done. As one psalmist puts it, He throws caution to the winds, giving to the needy in reckless abandon. His right-living, right-giving ways never run out, never wear out.

MSG 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Reap Much*

But remember this—if you give little, you will get little. A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much. Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give. Don't force anyone to give more than he really wants to, for cheerful givers are the ones God prizes. God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more so that there will not only be enough for your own needs but plenty left over to give joyfully to others. It is as the Scriptures say: "The godly man gives generously to the poor. His good deeds will be an honor to him forever."

TLB 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Wisdom *Will Have A Big Harvest*

Remember this: The person who plants a little will have a small harvest, but the person who plants a lot will have a big harvest. Each one should give as you have decided in your heart to give. You should not be sad when you give, and you should not give because you feel forced to give. God loves the person who gives happily. And God can give you more blessings than you need. Then you will always have plenty of everything—enough to give to every good work. It is written in the Scriptures: "He gives freely to the poor. The things he does are right and will continue forever."

NCV 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Reap Generously

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Wisdom – 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

In Context: Read 2 Corinthians 9

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Remember this: | Whoever sows | sparingly | will also reap | sparingly, | and | whoever sows | generously | will also reap | generously. | Each man | should give | what he | has decided | in his heart | to give, | not reluctantly | or under compulsion, | for God loves | a cheerful giver. | And God | is able | to make | all grace | abound to you, | so that | in all things | at all times, | having all that | you need, | you will | abound | in every | good work. | As it is written: | "He has | scattered abroad | his gifts | to the poor; | his righteousness | endures forever." 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, you have blessed my life so I am able to cheerfully and generously give to others. Help me to say yes to you and to the needs of others. Protect me from being stingy. Help me to decide in my heart to give and sow bountifully. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What decision and action must you make and take if you want to reap a bountiful harvest?

When have you given considerable thought to putting into action your plan to give generously to others?

Why does it become easier to give to others after you have decided in your heart to be a generous giver?

When have you sowed and given generously to others and received back a generous harvest in return?

When have you sowed sparingly and given little to others and received very little back in return?

How has the Lord blessed your life so that you are able to cheerfully and generously give to others?

When have you felt the Lord's blessing and pleasure in your cheerful and generous giving to others?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Ask the Lord to help you to make a decision in your heart and mind to give cheerfully and generously to others.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord has blessed your life so that you will be able to give generously to others.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you have learned to give cheerfully and generously to others.

Close With Prayer: ***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you make a decision in your heart to give generously and cheerfully to others.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I have made a decision to give generously and cheerfully to others.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I give generously and cheerfully to others today?
