

# Discover the Joy of Giving

Text: Acts 20:35; II Corinthians 8:7

**Introduction:** *Jesus once said, "it is more blessed to give than it is to receive" (Acts 20:35). When the apostle Paul wrote to the Christians at Corinth, he commended them for their faith, speech, knowledge, earnestness, and love. But, then he says, "Just as you excel in all these other areas, I now want you to also excel in the grace of giving" (I Corinthians 8:7)*

## When we Give:

### I. We Bless \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 12:2; Matthew 10:8, Luke 16:9

Matt. 6:19-21; Luke 12:33&34; Proverbs 23:4&5; James 5:2&3

"Anything not given away is eventually lost" (Mother Teresa)

James 2:24&26; Galatians 5:6; I John 3:18&19

Acts 2:44&45; 4:32&37; 2:47; I Timothy 6:17-19

"Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can" (J. Wesley)

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." (Sir Winston Churchill)

### II. We Bless \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 6:7, 9&10; II Corinthians 9:6&7; Luke 6:38

"As I have attempted to integrate service into my life, I have felt better about the way I choose to live...It's really true. When you choose to give, you will also receive. IN fact, what you receive is directly proportional to what you give. As you give more freely of yourself, you will experience more feelings of peace." (Richard Carlson)

### III. We Bless \_\_\_\_\_

II Corinthians 4:2; 9:11-13; I Peter 2:12; Matthew 5:14-16

John 3:16

"Be a river, not a reservoir. Believers are channels, not containers. God's love and grace are to flow through us, not be held in us. " (Kirk Nowery, The Giving Church)

**Conclusion:** *How much more joy could we know in giving if we were totally and completely debt free? Impossible? Not to God (Matthew 19:26) He is the God who more than out gives us, enabling us to give even more to others (I Kings 17:8-16).*