

# “Giving with a Cheerful Heart”

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

INTRODUCTION: “*Planting grass seeds generously . . .*”

## I. GIVING ORIGINATES WITH GOD

- A. He has showered His grace upon us in abundance  
(2 Corinthians 9:8-10)
- B. Luther’s explanation of the *1<sup>st</sup> article of the Apostles’ Creed* says it so well

## II. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRISTIAN GIVING

- A. A thankful & trusting heart is used by God to accomplish great things
  - 1. *L. Kraft of Kraft Cheese Corporation & his 25%*
  - 2. *Zacchaeus the tax collector & his changed heart (Luke 19)*
- B. **KEY POINT: The love of Jesus changes our hearts & empowers us to be “givers” and not just “takers”** (2 Corinthians 9 & Luke 19)
- C. Never *under compulsion*, but with thankful cheerfulness
  - 1. Such giving also clearly applies to marriage
  - 2. Reluctant giving reveals a *plumbing problem* in our lives (“plugged up pipes”)
- D. **ONLY Jesus’ self-giving sacrifice forgives our sins & changes our hearts**

## III. GREAT RESULTS OF GIVING

- A. Generosity brings blessings to many
- B. “What goes around, comes around” says St. Paul (2 Corinthians 9:12-13)

CONCLUSION:

“*A huge medical bill ‘paid for’ with a glass of milk . . .*”



GIVING  
WITH A

CHEERFUL HEART

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15