

Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, March 9th "Cultivating a Generous Heart"

1 Chronicles 29:9-14 – NIV

⁹ The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

¹⁰ David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

"Praise be to you, Lord,
the God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

¹¹ Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, Lord, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.

¹² Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.
In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.

¹³ Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴ "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 – NIV

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸ 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. ⁹ As it is written:

"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Lenten Discipline: Keep a Gratitude Journal this week. Write Down 1-3 items a day.

Takeaway: Generosity flows from a joyful and willing heart, not from obligation or compulsion.

Questions:

1. If resources were unlimited, what is one generous thing you would do for someone else? Who would you choose to bless?
2. In 1 Chronicles 29:9-14, David and the people gave generously because they recognized everything came from God. What are some hurdles to cultivating that attitude in our lives today?
3. In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul says that God loves a cheerful giver. How might that passage be abused? What do you think makes the difference between giving reluctantly and giving cheerfully?
4. Reflect on 2 Corinthians 9:8-10. How does trusting in God's provision help us overcome fears or hesitations about being generous?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20250309.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/J5MkB8LWP1Y>