

**Grateful Hearts (5)**  
“Gratitude That Overflows to Others”  
**2 Corinthians 9:6–15**

**Introduction:** *It’s the Sunday after Thanksgiving. But does that mean Thanksgiving over... or has it just begun?* Because, for the believer, thanksgiving was never meant to be a single day. It’s meant to become a lifestyle—a pattern of the heart that overflows into action.

**I. Generosity begins with a grateful perspective (vv. 6–8)**

**A. The principle of sowing and reaping**

*“He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully...”* (2 Cor. 9:6–7)

1. We see it in everyday examples: farming, investing, serving. (*Phil. 4:10–20*)
2. “God loves a cheerful giver.” (v. 7)

**Warren Wiersbe:** “We must not be afraid of giving too much, for we cannot outgive God.”

**Charles Stanley:** “When we truly understand how much we’ve received, we cannot help but give.”

**Adrian Rogers:** “Gratitude is the attitude that sets the altitude for living.”

**B. Gratitude moves us from obligation to opportunity**

1. Giving is about *faith* and *mindset*, not finances.
  2. Paul stresses joyful, intentional, heartfelt giving.
  3. “Cheerful” = *hilaros* (from which we get *hilarious*).
- Prov. 22:9** — “*He who has a generous eye will be blessed...*”

**C. Generosity Mirrors God’s Grace**

1. God gave His Son: *John 3:16*
2. God was unsparing in His generosity: *Romans 8:32*
3. “God is able to make all grace abound toward you...” (2 Cor. 9:8)  
*Not just saving grace – but eh grace that supplies all our needs.*
  - a. Gratitude leads to trust: God provides.
  - b. Grace equips us to give.
  - c. Gratitude changes how we see our resources:
    - Time → service
    - Money → ministry
    - Words → encouragement

**II. Grateful giving meets real needs (vv. 9–10)**

**A. The practice of generous giving**

*“He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.”* (v. 9; *Psalm 112:9*)

1. Giving is practical and eternally rewarding (*Prov. 19:17; Matthew 25:40; 2 Corinthians 3:18*)
2. Righteousness and generosity walk together.

**B. The process behind generosity**

*“Now may He who supplies seed to the sower... supply and multiply the seed you have sown...”* (v. 10)

1. God is the Supplier and Multiplier.
2. Jesus said,— “*Give, and it will be given to you...*” (*Lk. 6:38*)

**C. Gratitude compels us to act**

1. Grateful hearts notice needs and meet them. *1 John 3:18* — Love in “deed and truth.”
2. Gratitude leads to thanksgiving to God when needs are met.

**III. Grateful giving glorifies God (vv. 11–13)**

**A. Generosity creates thanksgiving –**

1. “*You are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving... to God.*” (v. 11)
2. Generosity produces worship. “*The administration of this service... is abounding through many thanksgivings to God.*” (v. 12)

**B. Giving testifies to the gospel**

1. Generosity shows faith in action. **Dr. David Jeremiah explains:** “*Generosity... is about giving a piece of yourself because God gave all of Himself.*”
2. “*They glorify God for the obedience of your confession... and for your liberal sharing...*” (v. 13)

**IV. Grateful giving follows God’s example (vv. 14–15)**

*“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”* (v. 15)

**A. God’s greatest gift: Jesus**

1. God gave first.
2. Every act of giving responds to His grace.

**B. The gospel makes us generous**

1. We don’t “give so God will bless us,” but we give because “God has already blessed us—so we give joyfully.”
2. We are blessed to be a blessing.

**Conclusion:** *Gratitude doesn’t just speak—it lives and gives.*

Jesus said, “*Freely you have received, freely give.*” (*Matthew 10:8*)

May we all commit to:

- Give generously—encouragement, help, presence.
- Give joyfully—not from guilt but gratitude.
- Give intentionally—ask God where to sow.

*As we “Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”* (2 Cor. 9:15)