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**January 25 & 26, 2020  
Part 4 – We're New...Let's Live Like It!**

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### **Introduction:**

"Wherever your treasure is, there your heart will be also."  
(Matt. 6:21; Luke 12:34)

### **The Essence of Giving...**

Old Testament "Tithe" = 10% (One-Tenth)

New Testament Generosity:

*"Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Gratefulness inspires \_\_\_\_\_

2 Corinthians 8:7-10

- "...see to it that you also excel in this grace of giving."
- New Covenant giving is a work of grace – not \_\_\_\_\_

2 Corinthians 8:11-12

- Love \_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:16)

### **Graceful Giving: Four Reasons to Be Generous**

1. To \_\_\_\_\_ living by our new identity
2. To meet \_\_\_\_\_ needs
3. To experience \_\_\_\_\_ transformation
4. To \_\_\_\_\_ in a spiritual harvest

## SMALL GROUP Q'S

### Personal Life:

1. Besides what God has done for you through Christ, what would you say is the most generous thing that anyone has ever done for you? Perhaps it's impossible to decide between more than one experience. How did that act of generosity impact your life?

### Ponderings:

2. Under the New Covenant, we have received the spiritual nature of Jesus Christ Himself (Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:1-14; 2 Corinthians 5:17). The flesh wants to hoard and control – but our new inner man/woman is united with the Holy Spirit and is generous like God. How do we walk in conformity to our new nature rather than in conformity to the flesh in this area of generosity?
3. Of the four reasons given in the message for living a generous life, which one inspires or excites you personally the most? Why do you think this is the case? How are gratefulness and generosity inextricably related?
4. What are the common enemies we might face on a regular basis when it comes to discouraging or distracting us from being more generous? How has Jesus defeated those enemies through the cross and resurrection?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-14 together as a group...

What are some of the most clear truths this passage reveals about generosity as the Apostle Paul explains it?

Would you say that, as a general rule, people tend to be more or less generous as they grow wealthier? Explain...

Of all the many things we might be asked to give in support of, why do you think the ministry of Christ's Church is God's "Plan A?" Explain...

### Promptings:

6. As we head deeper into 2020, what is one practical adjustment or change you can make in the direction of greater generosity? What are your fears or apprehensions about making such a change? How does it make you feel to know that at the core of your new heart, you are generous like Jesus is? How can you begin to walk more in step with that new, generous nature?