

THANKS

UNLEASHING GOD'S BLESSING
THROUGH GRATITUDE

Thanks + Giving

THANKS + GIVING

As a verb, “thanks” means **to express appreciation or acknowledgment.**

As a verb, “giving” means **to freely present something of value.**

THANKS + GIVING

A call to action that catalyzes gratitude into generosity — the surest sign of discipleship.

“No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.”

AMBROSE

2 CORINTHIANS 9:12-14, LB

When you give, two good things happen as a result of your gifts—those who receive are helped, and they will overflow with thanks to God. They will be glad not only because of your generous gifts... but they will praise God for this proof that your deeds are as good as your doctrine. And they will pray for you with deep fervor and feeling because of the wonderful grace of God shown through you.

BACKGROUND TO 2 CORINTHIANS 8-9

The Text: a cohesive unit on generous and grateful giving.

The Occasion: Jewish converts, rejected by family, ostracized by Jews, and marginalized economically, are now absorbed into the Jerusalem church.

The Purpose: to help the financially strapped church serve these poor converts.

THREE-FOLD APPEAL

1. Example

“Others are eager to give.”

2 CORINTHIANS 8:4

Our thanks for the sacrificial giving of others should motivate us to our own sacrificial giving toward God's work.

THREE-FOLD APPEAL

2. Proof

*“This is one way to prove your love is real,
going beyond mere words.”*

2 CORINTHIANS 8:8, LB

When believers are not generous givers,
there is no proof they are devoted disciples.

THREE-FOLD APPEAL

3. Grace

“You know how full of grace our Lord Jesus was: he was so very rich, yet to help you he became so very poor, so that by being poor he could make you rich.”

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9, NLT

Our thanks to God for his grace initiates an overflow of generosity to others so they too may know that grace.

THE OUTCOME OF
THANKS + GIVING

1. It does something for me.

REWARD

2 COR. 9:9

INCREASE

2 COR. 9:10-11

VALIDATION

2 COR. 9:13

SUPPORT

2 COR. 9:12-13

THE OUTCOME OF
THANKS + GIVING

2. It does something for God.

“As a result of your gifts, those who receive are helped, and they will overflow with thanks to God. They will be glad not only because of your generous gifts ... but they will praise God for this proof that your deeds are as good as your doctrine.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:12-13, LB

THE OUTCOME OF
THANKS + GIVING

2. It does something for God.

“Your generous lives will prompt people to open up to our generous Father in heaven.”

MATTHEW 5:16, MSG

THE OUTCOME OF
THANKS + GIVING

3. It does something for others.

“It supplies the needs of others.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:12



