

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 05/03/2023

Text(s): 2 Corinthians 9

Sermon Title: The Gift of Giving

Preacher: Rev Dr Jonathan Seet

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

2 Corinthians 9 (NKJV)

- 1** Now concerning the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you;
- 2** for I know your willingness, about which I boast of you to the Macedonians, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal has stirred up the majority.
- 3** Yet I have sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this respect, that, as I said, you may be ready;
- 4** lest if *some* Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we (not to mention you!) should be ashamed of this confident boasting.
- 5** Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which *you had* previously promised, that it may be ready as *a matter of* generosity and not as a grudging obligation.
- 6** But this *I say*: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- 7** So *let* each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.
- 8** And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work.
- 9** As it is written: "*He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.*"
- 10** Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have *sown* and increase the fruits of your righteousness,
- 11** while *you are* enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.
- 12** For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God,
- 13** while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for *your* liberal sharing with them and all *men*,
- 14** and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you.
- 15** Thanks *be* to God for His indescribable gift!

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. At the start of the sermon, we heard about the 4 ways to give. They are: (i) as a duty, (ii) for self-satisfaction, (iii) for one's own pride, glory and prestige, and (iv) out of love for God and neighbour. Please share if you have given in one or more of these ways before and what you learned along the way.**

- 2. What should be our attitude when we give? And what should be our aim as we give?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

- 1. All of us have needs. Even though we do not give in order to get, we know that it is God's will to provide for us. What did Apostle Paul have to say about the way God provides for us? What did he have to say about the way we can give, receive, and give again?**

- 2. The ways that God will bless you abundantly will not only be in finances. What are the various ways that God blesses His people? Which of these ways have you experienced yourself?**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for monthly guide)

- Pray for one another to grow in love for God and for neighbours.
- Pray for our life groups and our church to be a people who know how to receive and also how to give, all for the glory of God.
- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.