

The Giving Paradox - Week 3

Introduction

We often think that when we have more we will give more, and while it's true that we can't give what we don't have; it is the willing giving of what we do have that brings us more abundance which is what gives us the ability to be able to give more. The more we let go of and give, the more we receive in return.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Have you ever wanted to give a gift to someone you cared about but did not have the means to give them the gift? How did you feel? What did you do?
- 2. What are some ways you have discovered to give to your loved ones without spending money?
- 3. Has anyone you loved asked you to give them something you were unable to give them at the time? If so, what did you do? How did it work out?
- 4. Read 2 Corinthians 9:5-9. What is the universal principle mentioned in verse 6?
- 5. In the message Jon said: "You are reaping today the seeds you planted yesterday". What, if any, are some ways you find this statement to be true in your life?
- 6. God said we will receive abundant blessings in proportion to what we are willing to give of what we currently have. With this principle and promise in mind, is there anything in your life that you have a hard time giving the 'majority of' or 'all of' when God ask you to give of it? How can this group help you your giving?

Moving Forward

What do you need today... Is it love? Is it kindness? Is it understanding? Is it mercy? Is it forgiveness? Is it financial freedom? Is it friendship? Is it restoration? Whatever it is; then apply the principle of sowing and reaping to it. Plant a seed and watch it grow.

- Plant seeds of love and watch love grow in your life
- Plant seeds of forgiveness and watch forgiveness grow in your life
- Plant seeds of friendship and watch friendship grow in your life
- Plant the seeds of restoration and watch relationships get restored in your life

And remember... all along the way as you plant, it's not always about how much you are planting but how much of what you have to plant that you are trying to keep that will make the difference in how much you receive in return!

Changing Your Mind - Commit this to memory

<u>2 Corinthians 9:6</u> Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. (TNIV)