

# *Stretched* [5] God Wants to Stretch Your Giving

*Series Theme:*

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. 2 Corinthians 3:18

*Today:*

<sup>1</sup>We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, <sup>2</sup>for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. <sup>3</sup>For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, <sup>4</sup>begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints- <sup>5</sup>and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. <sup>6</sup>Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. <sup>7</sup>But as you excel in everything- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you- see that you excel in this act of grace also. <sup>8</sup>I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. <sup>9</sup>For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich...<sup>9b</sup>The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all contentment in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 8:1-9; 9:6-8

*Theme:* God wants to stretch your giving.

Good news about generosity:

-It isn't determined by circumstances

-It is a way to love and serve others

-It lines up with Jesus' example

-It provides a rich return

-It pleases God when done gladly

## Making It Personal

*Scripture Journey NT, Ps, Pr*

◇ M	Feb-6	1Cor 13	Ps 29
◇ Tu	Feb-7	1C14:1-19	Ps 30
◇ W	Feb-8	1C14:20-40	Ps31:1-13
◇ Th	Feb-9	1C15:1-11	P31:14-24
◇ F	Feb-10	1C15:12-34	Ps 32
◇ Sa	Feb-11	1C15:35-58	Ps33:1-11
Su	Feb-12	<i>off or catch up</i>	

*Scripture Journey NT & OT*

◇ M	Feb-6	1Cor 13	Ex 36-38
◇ Tu	Feb-7	1C14:1-19	Ex 39-40
◇ W	Feb-8	1C14:20-40	Lev 1-3
◇ Th	Feb-9	1C15:1-11	Lev 4-6
◇ F	Feb-10	1C15:12-34	Lev 7-9
◇ Sa	Feb-11	1C15:35-58	Lev10-12
Su	Feb-12	<i>off or catch up</i>	

Memory Link: 2 Corinthians 9:7

