

Expose 42 K6

Stop Graceless Giving

Hope you had a good night rest and a time to reflect on what was shared yesterday. You have a time to ponder, to consider if those things were true. And so thank you for joining us today because if you have just run off with what was shared yesterday in the last episode. It will be just be like getting truth half way and that is just synonymous to half-truth. And it is good you are here today to continue with what we shared yesterday.

And so today we'll be going deeper into the scene. To annex some other bundle of meat surrounding giving, sacrificial offering, first fruits offerings and the likes. And yesterday we raised a critical questions asking if your pastor has earn the right to receive offerings, to raise offerings using a couple of scripture from 2Corinthians Chapter 8 verse 9.

So if you are offended about what we shared yesterday, you know! We are not promising you not to offend you again. And we are trusting the Lord to communicate this truth that need to be told in love.

And so today before we go to another aspect of this giving , I will like you to in a minutes or two recapture the essence of what was shared yesterday to remind our viewers where we stopped so that they can understand the basis of where we are going today. And to just maybe to re-juggle our memory of those things.

Viewers all over the world, welcome to another episode of the knock out series, is Knock out series six. Well we've actually laid a foundation yesterday for those who were with us live yesterday on this series. And the foundation we laid yesterday was this, we did say that according to 2Corinthians Chapter 8 verse 9, before the Apostle Paul began to teach the Corinthians brethren about giving he made a very critical statement. And the statement was you know the grace of our Lord Jesus that even though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor so that we through his poverty might be rich. And he made a statement as a precursor to teaching them on giving.

And so the questions we raised is, can you, I mean no one has the right to teach on the notion of giving unless they present on the basis of the foundation of the grace of God. And the reason why he so made a conclusion, the reason why the Apostle Paul by the holy spirit began to teach on giving from the perspective of God's grace is because there is a whole different perspective that giving can be looked at. And that's

the perspective of the law and we saw yesterday. And the big questions **is are you understanding giving or are you executing giving or are how you carrying out giving in the church on the basis of the grace of God, or on the basis of law?** And whichever you do will actually show forth in how you experience the benefits of God in your life.

And in summary, we said giving can only be taught on the perspective of grace from a New Covenant perspective. That is what we established yesterday. And that is it.

And today we will carry on, you see the questions that arises yesterday which we need to answer today is a very simple one. I wouldn't say that too simple. Is a bit complicated but I believe is simple in the Holy Ghost. And the questions is if the Apostle Paul said in 2Corinthians Chapter 8 verse 9 that basically on the foundation of the poverty of Jesus, that is the guarantee you have for your own richness. Now the Apostle Paul was saying this to people that he was going to teach to give- the Corinthians brethren. So the questions you wanna ask is, **if through the poverty of Jesus Christ we were made rich, then what is the reason why we have to give in the body of Christ?**

You know don't forget one thing, the reason why this question we are asking is paramount is because the reason why most people or most Ministers teach for reason to give is they teach people if you give you can be blessed. In fact they always say you want to break to the next level of abundance, you wanna break to the next level of financial prosperity then you need to give up to that level.

Don't forget the Apostle Paul sounds like a very bad sales man, very bad sales man, you know why? How can you tell people that you want to actually encourage to give, you are telling them already they are rich. So if people are rich already just because of the poverty of Jesus Christ. Just because we have everything we have at the expense of Christ, then the big question arises which is what we are going to answer today, why then do I need to give?

And let's see the scripture answer that for us.

Now let's go straight to the book of 2Corinthians Chapter 8 that we began to explore since yesterday. Now we are going to read from verse one.

Don't forget the question we are asking is, **why then do I need to give if through the poverty of Jesus Christ I was already made rich?**

Now **2Cor8:1** says

2Cor 8:1

“Moreover, brethren we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia”

So Paul was telling the Corinthians church don't you notice there was a grace of God that was working in Macedonia brethren

2. “How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality”

3. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;

4. Praying us with much in-treaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

5. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

Now what the Apostle Paul is simply saying there, I read verse 6 and 7 before we actually talk about this.

6. Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.

Now keep watching the word the “**samegrace**” also. So Paul said there is a grace at work in the Macedonia brethren and Paul said I wish to see the same grace at work in you. Now look at verse 7 this is a classical verse here.

7. Therefore, as ye abound in everything, (watch this) in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

The first reason he's giving them to give. He said the reason you have to give is because I want you to abound in this grace.

Now let's break this down. Watch this!

He didn't say I want you to give so you can get the grace. Now this is very critical. Please I think in the body of Christ, I think so many people read the Bible like somebody that's got dyslexia. You know some people they read some of these things backward. For example if you put *g o d* they can get *d o g*, now for example when we read the Bible there are times we misplace the context of the scripture.

If you notice the Apostle Paul did not say that am asking you to give so that you can get the grace of God. This is what people teach and is not scriptural, is not in the

bible, is not the word of God, that is the tradition of men. You don't give so that the grace of God can come into your life. That is not what it said. The first reason that the Apostle Paul gave here, the first motivation now he said if you give. Look at what he said. I think I need to read it in the context of the verse.

7. Therefore, as ye abound in everything, (watch this in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

The word abounding is the word manifestation. That is a lot different from getting something. It means I want you to show it forth. I want you to prove it. I want you to manifest that which you have. Now I will say this, this sounds very similar to what Jesus told that woman in John Chapter four.

Jesus said to the woman who came to the well of Samaria, Jesus said if you keep coming to this well you will always taste again but He said the water am going to give to you it will be like a spring welling up to what? It means I will put something in you that will manifest itself. I will put something in you that will show forth itself. So what the Apostle Paul was simply saying is, you have the grace of our Lord Jesus. You have the grace of God at work in your life already. Whether you give or you don't give, you have the grace of God at work in you. The favour of God is at work in your life. But he says when you give what happens is this you abound. It means you are simply saying you are demonstrating the fact that you have the grace of God in your life.

Now you might say is that not semantic, is this not the same thing. Is not the same thing. There is a big difference, the big difference is, whether you give or you don't give you have the grace of God. That is a lot different from people saying give so that God's grace and favour can come into your life. That is a big difference in both scenarios.

We are simply saying is an opportunity for you to demonstrate. Now this is very because important if you we are with us in our last series- the prodigal father series. We made the same assertion when it comes to living right. We simply said we don't live right so that we can become righteous and the question we did asked then was very critical. The questions was how many sin does a sinner need to commit to become a sinner and the answer to that question in Roman Chapter 5 is there is nothing because the Bible says Adam sin and disobey and because of Adam disobedience sin came upon all men and death by sin. And no one, this is the doctrine of sin it means you don't need to do anything bad to be evil. People were born into sin because of the fallen nature of Adam.

And the same questions arises how many righteous acts do you need to perform to be righteous. The answer simply is zero, because when you were born in Christ, you were born into righteousness. By the same revelation, we are talking about giving today. In the same understanding, how much giving do you need to give in church to have the grace of God in your life? nothing! How much money, how much currency do you need to release to get the grace of God in your life? Is nothing! It means simply the Apostle Paul is saying that I am not saying give to get the grace of God, I am only saying that you have the grace of God in your life already and when you give you demonstrate the fact that you understand you have the grace of God in your life. am only asking a for a manifestation of that grace. That is the very first reason why we give. We give because we know we have the grace of God. We are blessed of God.

You see the fact is the Bible talks about faith and works. And this is a very good questions. And this is a very good thing to talk about because you see giving must have the right foundation. Now the question you want to ask is, **does it matter then if I give without understanding the fact that I have the grace of God in my life? Does it matter how I give?**

Let's see what the scripture has to say. Don't forget we are still on the very first reason for giving. We give because we want to abound in the grace of God. We want to demonstrate the fact that we have the grace of God. So if anybody tells you in 2017 and says eh, you have to give your first fruits, you have to give this and give that so that God can release his grace upon your life today or this year, you can simply tell them eh Mr, the Bible says I only give so that I can abound in the grace that I already have.

Now let's say this quickly

Let's go to 1Corinthians 13 and see what this is all about

Le's' go to 1 Corinthians 13 and see this

We are still clarifying this particular first motivation for giving. We give because we know we have the grace of God in our life and we are demonstrating it for people to see that we know that God has blessed us.

Now 1Corinthians 13 let's see what this talk about giving and let see what kind of revelation we can glean from 1Corinthians.

Now look at this I read from verse two.

1Cor.13

2. “And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.”

See what it says

Verse three, watch this look at verse three

3. “And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,

That is giving, that is giving now this is some of my goods, it said I give everything I have to the poor. Can you see that? Everything 100 percent! You know that is it!

and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”

What is this trying to say? What is simply trying to say is that you can give without understanding the grace of God. People can give without the foundation of God’s love and the Bible says when you give without that right foundation it profit you nothing.

Now basically put, it means then for people that pressurize, minister that pressurize people to give just for the sake of giving. It is completely unscriptural because God is not as interested in your giving as He is interested in the fact that your giving was born after the revelation of the grace of God in your life.

Let’s say that again, so your giving must be giving after the relation of the grace of God. If you give without God’s revelation of his grace in your life the Bible simply says it profit you nothing. Is irrelevant, it makes no sense. You see God doesn’t need your thousands, your millions of pounds or dollars or naira whatever what is much more important to God is do you know you have the grace of the Lord in your life? Do you know God’s favour is upon your life? Do you know that God’s goodness is already upon you? Do you know you are already walking in God’s season for your life and if you know that do you just want to demonstrate that to show people? For example a dog will always act as a dog, a blessed man will always act as a blessed man, a man that is so favoured will act as a favoured man. So when I give I am simply saying am favoured already, and because am favoured, and because I am blessed well am going to blessed others.

That is why there was a covenant upon Abraham. You see when God spoke to Abraham in Genesis. God said I will make you a blessing, I will bless you and make you a what? A blessing. It means anytime Abraham was blessing people, it means he's saying oh God I know you told me that you will bless me and make me a blessing. When a man is blessed, when a man is graced, what he does is that you know what because I am graced and so blessed, I am going to be a blessing so I am going to be blessing because I know am blessed.

This is the first reason, the first motivation that we have in the New Covenant to give. We give because we have the grace of God and we are only giving to demonstrate to people that we are graced already and that is the first reason we see in 2Corinthians Chapter 8 verse 7

Let's go back again to see the other reason the other motivation that drives us in the New Covenant. So what we've establish today.

Let's go back to 2Corinthians Chapter 8 verse 9

Now if you are listening to this, what we've established up till now is that we don't give to get the grace of God, we don't do that, we give because we have the grace of God.

Now let's quickly move to the second reason. The second motivation under the New Covenant for which we have to give. Now I am going to take you straight to chapter 9 of 2 Corinthians.

Chapter 9! And let's see what the apostolic revelation is in this chapter 9 of 2 Corinthians.

I am going to take it from verse four. Now we have to actually debunk some myths at this stage. We have to actually knock out some erroneous mentality at this stage concerning giving.

Now see what it says in 2Corinthians Chapter 9

I read from verse five

2Cor 9:5

“Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.”

Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty,

Can you see that?

...that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.

Can you see that?

It says

Can you see again he says Paul said there to the Corinthians brethren I have asked some people to make some gathering, to gather some resources from you but he says what is important really is not as a matter of bounty.

I repeat, you know what bounty means? It means abundance. Paul said is not about the fact that, is not the volume of what you have to give that matters, is about the fact that is not coming from the spirit of covetousness.

Now again we come back to the foundation, is very critical to God the reason why you are giving. In fact let me say this and I think everyone need to listen to this, Paul said if I give all my goods, now all means hundred percent. If I give all my goods to the poor and is not coming from a revelation of love, Paul says let's just come to a conclusion, is nothing, is irrelevant.

Again, we see the same understanding in 2Corinthians chapter 9 from verse 5, it says is not about the bounty, that is the not issue, not about the volume, is not the volume, is not about thousand or two thousand. I see minister saying today you know what, people talk about the fact that you need to sow all. If you are expecting God to bless in the order of thousand, you should give in thousand, you have to leave the realm of hundred or leave the realm of thousand, different currency, now these are people focusing on bounty. And Paul said Corinthians brethren we are not talking, is not about bounty here, is about... what matters is this is not been done out of covetousness.

And we see the reason, you see have you notice in the New Covenant, motivation is more important than the act. I repeat, you see under the old covenant people ask question why is the Old Covenant different from the New Covenant? This is the reason, under the old covenant, the action is more important than the motivation. Under the New Testament in the blood of Jesus Christ, the motivation is more critical than the action. That is the reason why you see have you notice that you have some people who are not Christians, who are not born again but they are moral in fact much more morals than many Christians. But the Bible says is not accepted. Because all our

righteousness is like a filthy rag before God. God is not interested in a person that is moral as long as his morality is not born out of the price that Christ paid on the cross. It's irrelevant to God.

So you need to understand the new covenant in the blood of Jesus. The motivation of the source of what you are doing has much more important than the action. That is the reason God told Adam. I think we need to digress about Paul. Adam in the Garden of Eden. He told God I heard a voice in the cool of the garden and I went to hide myself because I was naked. You will think God will say oh wonderful! it was great that you knew you were naked, oh! Thank God you know your situation, oh! thank God I didn't have to convince you, you are naked. God said who told you? God said what was the source of your information? That is important to me and you see in the same way even if I give all my goods to the poor and is not coming out of a revelation of God's love. Is nothing, is irrelevant.

Again we see in 2Corinthians 9:5, he says is not about the bounty, is not about the volume, is not about the size, is about the fact that is not coming out of a covetous spirit. Now take note of that! That is very important.

That means, so many offerings gathering are raising are born out of covetousness. Trying to do, some will sow up is either on the part of the person who is raising it and the person who want to participate. You see the price of covetousness. People want to sow up they use that as a bait. Covetousness as a bait. Sowing up to this. They using it, both parties are guilty in this, out of bounty, out of covetousness you see all those things, you want this currency, you give into this.

And that is the reason I think (that is) one of the reason why there is a drive in the body of Christ today to give outside of grace is because it is covetousness. Giving outside of grace because why? Driven by a different spirit.

And like yesterday we really established that there is no vacuum in this. Anybody that will not lay and not bring the bedrock of grace before they teach you before you just have to substitute it with something else like covetousness now. So you see anybody that is not using this, is not promoting the giving under the bedrock of God's grace will actually have to be on the platform of covetousness. So you need to watch the platform, where are they standing on? Are they standing on this revelation or they are standing on covetousness.

And that is why yesterday, our teaching yesterday was does your pastor, has he earn the right to raise an offering. That is what we said yesterday it means that the Bible

says before any giving can be talked about, 2Corinthians 8:9 says it must be spoken under the foundation of the grace of God.

And so today though yesterday was about the people that are raising the offering, but today we are focusing, this verse is focusing on the people giving the offering today to see that they are not coming too in giving the offering on the platform of covetousness. You just have to stand on that grace too and abound in that grace.

And I think there is something you just talked about which is also what we need to really look at is about the response. You see your response I mean (the knowledge of the grace) what is the basis of our response? Like we said Adam response, the basis was wrong. Even though he was naked, God rejected the basis because of the source of the information was from the flesh.

So it matters in the kingdom of God, our response. Where is the driving force of our response? Anytime anybody teaches us in giving in the church and you give your money. You need to ask yourself a question what is the basis for your response? What drives your response? Why am I responding to? Why am I giving? Am I responding to covetousness or to the grace of God? Am I giving because I know that am already blessed, am already grace by God, am already loaded with the daily benefits of the Lord. **Psalm 68 it says the God who daily load us with benefit, even the God of our salvation.** Am I giving because I know am blessed and as a blessed man I need to be a blessing to others?

That is the correct drive in the spirit. Or you are giving on the platform of saying that oh I just need to give just like they've said it so that I can get more, so that I can get to another level. You know that is another way and psalm 68 was telling us this God, if you understand this revelation of the grace of God you know he daily loads us. Is as much as you can carry. Is a load of his benefits. So if you understand that fully well and your response is based on that revelation, you know is quite different from somebody giving on the hope that he might bind his way up.

And I think we need to say this which is very important. Anytime we talk about the grace of God, people I think it sounds a big most time vague to people and I think we have to really use simple terms.

Now simply put, it means you getting what you don't deserve. I say it again, it means what you get from God has nothing to do with your performance. That is what is called the grace of God. That is why the Bible says in Romans 5 that **while we are yet sinners can you see that? Christ died for the ungodly (Romans 5:8).** It means you wouldn't deserve it. We wouldn't have what it takes, we are yet sinners, we are yet

down and out. Christ died for us. That is grace, it means everything that actually came upon you at salvation has nothing to do with your performance.

So there is no way then that you can say you want to sow up, you want to sow your seed so that you can move to that level of blessings in God. That is rubbishing the grace of God. And that is what it says.

And if you understand what we just said, it doesn't matter whether you give or you don't give. You are already blessed. (That is why the Apostle Paul said), it might look somehow but that is the truth you are already blessed if you are following what we are sharing. You know we are not just saying the words of our own...Galatians 3:13 we said it yesterday.

So it doesn't matter the amount, or how often or how regular or whatever you sow. whether you sow or you chooses not to sow, you are already blessed based on what this scripture is saying. That is the point.

Now let's say it again if you are already blessed. 2Corinthians 8:7 then tell us the reason why you give is to demonstrate to people that you are already blessed. That is the word. That is why he said about Abraham he said I will blessed you and make you a blessing. So if you are blessed you demonstrate that you are blessed. But you don't give so that you can be blessed and I think that is very critical for everyone to understand. And that is how God sees it and we need to see it that way.

So that is the point.

Now you see base on verse five, 2Corinthians 9:5 it tells us as a matter of bounty and not as of covetousness.

2Cor 9:5

“Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.”

And look at verse 6. Please I want to take this really slowly because what we did say there is so much meat in this 2Cor 9:6 because now the Apostle Paul by the Holy spirit is going to revolutionize how we think about the reason why we give

Now again let's go

2Cor 9:6

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Can you see, **but this I say...**

oh you need to listen to that but.

but this I say...

Can you see that?

Look at verse 5 again before we go to verse 6

In verse 5 it says

...that the same might be ready, (that is the giving) as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness."

Now it says but. The reason we use but is to tell people that, you know in verse 5, I told you to get everything ready in terms of giving. In verse 5 I told you to prepare everything to give, but! but! It means before you run off, wait you need to listen to this, there is a but there.

Now it see what it says

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Now the reason why I said we are going to slow down that at this stage. This has become one of the hallmarks of most people who try to rubbish the grace of God by using giving. This is one of the hallmark scripture and we need to break down this scripture in the Holy Ghost. That is why we are going to slow down at this stage.

He says

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

And I am happy we are on this verse today. The reason is I know what we've been saying yesterday that the Bible says Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law. That is Galatians 3:13. That becoming a curse for us for it is written curse is everyone that is hung on the tree so that the blessings of the Abraham might come to us gentile.

When we said that yesterday that just because of Christ redemption, because Christ became a curse. That is the only reason not one of the reasons. That is the only reason Galatian 3:13 gives for the blessing of Abraham coming into your life.

Now when we said that some people might ask questions and say, hey! How is that true because does the Bible not say that if you sow sparingly you reap sparingly? if you sow bountifully you reap bountifully? Does the Bible not say that? So why are you saying, does the Bible not say that the more I give the more I can become blessed?

Now this is the clarification, so we are going to slow it down so everybody can get it in the Holy Ghost.

Now see what it says

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Now verse 7, now look at this it says

7. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Let's bring out the keywords in this 2Corinthians Chapter 9 from verse 5 to verse 7.

These are the keywords. And I am going to outline them one by one.

Number one, he says in verse 5 the last phrase in verse 5... **not as of covetousness.** Now if you have other translations, if you have the Living Bible, if you have the Good News Bible, if you have the Message Bible. You will notice that most of them translated the word covetousness into different form.

In fact the living Bible says not as of pressure. That is what... It means is saying that is shouldn't be that a giving because you were pressure. That is what the Living Bible says. The original Greek word that was use for that covetousness is the word that implies somebody was pushed, somebody was actually forced to do something.

Now listen, what the Apostle Paul is simply saying then in verse 5 of 2Corinthians 9 is, if you were pressure, if you were pushed, if you were driven by any other means to give. Now the reason why somebody can be pressure is simply because they don't understand the grace of God.

Now let's say this clearly, the reason am saying this is, I know we all know John Chapter 3 verse 16. John 3:16 says for God so loved the world that he gave.... And I think one of the verse of the scripture that is not so clear to people is 1John 3:16 is not as popular as John 3:16

I am going to quote 1John 3:16. Now listen to what 1John 3:16 says

1John 3:16

“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”

It said this is how we perceive God’s love. Now you see perception of God’s love. We can see that love. We understand what God’s love is. He said

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he (that is Jesus) laid down his life for us:

Now watch the next phrase,

and we (also) ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”

Simple! It’s simply saying because we understand how much sacrifice Christ gave, that Christ emptied himself and made himself of no reputation. He said out of that Revelation we just found out that we just simply cannot but lay down our life for the brethren.

It means all we do in the Christian fold is just a response to what Christ did. Again God doesn’t want you to act. And I’ll say it again, God doesn’t want your Christian life to be a life of action. God wants your Christian journey to be a life of response.

I repeat, the Christian life is not a life of action where you take initiative, where you saying you know what I think I need to live right, I think I need to give, I think I need to do this. No! God says am not going to take that kind of sacrifice from you. The only sacrifice that God accept is if your sacrifice was born out of the revelation of Christ that you have.

If you are saying oh! If Christ could give his life for me, if Christ could sacrifice everything and Bible says you understand that love, that is why you receive that love into your heart. That love is in your spirit. Out of that love, response is naturally come. There are natural responses and that is why we simply said, if you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, if you know what you have in you. If you know you are a blessed person, if you know you are blessed like God told Abraham you will want to be a blessing. A blessing, is a response. God will take your response. So the Apostle Paul is simply saying if people are been pressured to give, if people are being pressure to give it means then they are going to give out of a different response. They are giving out of a different motivation. They are giving out of a different drive and God says that is not acceptable. That is why he said watch this!

In the next verse six. He then said **if you sow sparingly** if you read the Living bible, they will say **if you sow under pressure**, if you sow stingily, now people are thinking the apostle... Now see how ministers teach 2Corinthians 9:6 they will say if you sow a thousand you will get in the order of a thousand. If you sow in the order of ten thousands, you will get reward in the order of ten thousand. Is this what this man is saying?

Now let's see don't forget last phrase. The last phrase says don't give out of covetousness, don't give out of pressure, don't give out of a wrong drive. Always make sure that when you give is born out of love and the grace of God.

That is what he said.

Then look at the next verse

Now let's take this slowly, after he said that he said well if you then sow under pressure now because when we say sparingly the word sparingly the original Greek word because I did a study on that Greek word is "when you sow under pressure" He said if you sow... You know if you have a pipe, if the pipe has a narrow diameter, orifice, what happens is if you want to pass anything through that pipe, is going to be a big push. It wouldn't go through properly. You have to drive it. You have to move it.

And Paul is saying well, if it comes down to the fact that your giving is because there is a bit of a pressure, you have to drive it through the narrow (force)... sparingly is not coming out, somebody has to push you through that narrow, that tiny hole. If that your giving comes all the way to that where somebody has to manipulate you, where somebody else has to tell you oh sow one millions and all that.

Now the questions you want to ask me how did I know that this verse six is not talking about the volume of how much you give or you don't give?

Look at the next verse,

Now I will use the next verse to convince you as we go back to verse six again. Look at verse seven

7. Every man according as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

He says it doesn't matter how much you want to give. He said according to what you purpose, whatever you decide. If this verse seven is saying it doesn't matter how much you decide, just give. It means it will contradict most of the teaching that people

give. People says well God says if you sow a little, you will get a little. If you sow a lot of money, you will get a lot. If that is the case, it means verse seven is completely against verse six. Because verse seven says it doesn't matter. Just purpose in your heart, whatever you purpose give. It means if verse six really mean what people teaches about it, it means verse seven doesn't make sense because is Apostle Paul then telling me that it doesn't matter if I get blessed a little. Are you telling it doesn't matter if I get blessed a little? You are telling me whatever I purpose in my heart I should give.

No! The reason why verse six seems to be at war with verse six is the way men are interpreting verse six.

And I hope our viewers could be able to pick up the real definition of what sparingly is. It means that is your giving been driven by somebody persuasive words? They have to (you know passive) drive you, they have to use persuasive words to propel you. And you see in fact there are some... because your orifice is narrow yes! your relation ,your understand that is why you see some churches...narrow based... so you will need force, a lot of force to drive you through. You know the force and the distance and the pressure, so you have a narrow orifice, is not based on the wider brotherhood of grace. So you need pressure and so that is why you sow sparingly.

He said if you are sowing under been driven by pressure of men. If you are sowing your seed under that, he said you would be getting result in that same realm.

Now is not...

Again I repeat, this is not a teaching about how much money you give, this is how people interpret 2Corinthians Chapter 9 verse 6. It is an ungodly interpretation, why did I say that because the next verse seven says whatever you purpose in your heart give.

Now let's look at it.

7. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

So let him give, now watch this... not what?

Grudgingly

So we no understand what verse 6 is all about

This clarify verse six.

That means those people that are sowing sparingly are the people who are doing it with pressure. Grudgingly! They are being driven. They are being armforce.

Please! Please!! Please!!! Let us not get 2Corinthians 9:6 twisted it has been used many times by people to teach people to give so much so they can get so much blessing or to give little money and you get little blessing. That is not what is saying because verse seven clarify verse six.

Verse seven simply says you know what? If you give grudgingly it then means you don't even understand the grace of God.

How did I say that? Because 2Corinthians Chapter 8 from verse One talks about the people in Macedonia, he said these people out of their poverty can you see that? Out of the depth of their poverty they gave within their means even way beyond their means and the question is who pressure them? Who motivated them?

In fact is it not amazing that the body of Christ today that has become professional offering raisers, people who are pros, they are professionals. It means that if those people goes to a particular church to minister, even there are some brethren in those churches who don't give at all or they give absolutely nothing, or they give as meager possible. And when these ministers- professional offering raisers come to the church and uses those words to drive them, is going to drive up emotions and push them grudgingly it will move them through that narrow pipe we talked about, and Apostle Paul No! You can't do that. If you are going to sow your seed because you are being pressure through a narrow pipe, he said that is the kind of result you are going to be getting.

This is not about how much you give or you don't give. This is about the fact that do you understand the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ? Do you understand the love of God that even though he laid down our life for us, we ought to also lay down our life for the brethren? That is why the people of Macedonia when the Apostle Paul started in 2 Corinthians chapter 8 verse One, we didn't see any one where they were driven. The Bible says out of the depth of their poverty they gave. In fact if you read from verse three to verse four. It said they first gave themselves to the lord, Can you see that? There is a foundation to their giving.

You see people today in our current time, we are so much impatient. Ministers are so impatient to make people give without the correct foundation of God's love and grace. And when giving is done outside God's love and grace. It takes you all the way back to Malachi 3. That is what happen and we read that yesterday.

And you see again, what we are trying to do is, we are actually bursting this particular myth in the body of Christ. 2Corinthians 9 verse 6 is not talking about the fact that if you sow much money you'll get more money, if you sow less money you get less money. No! How did I know that because verse seven clarify verse six. Verse seven simply says well don't give under the pressure of men. He said don't be like a narrow pipe that they have to drive the thing through. That is what verse six was talking about.

Can you see this got nothing to do with how much money, it has nothing to do with the volume of your tithe and offering, is got nothing to do with it? Is about the fact that are you doing that because you are been pushed or pressured. If you are been pressured it means forget about the giving, forget about the offering, go back and learn the grace of our Lord Jesus, go back and learn the love of Christ. Bible says we have not so learn Christ. Go back and learn Christ. Instead of you being push about how to give.

Now let's look at this

And I think the reason why there is so much charlatans in the body of Christ today is because, there is so many people who have no idea what the grace of our Lord Jesus is, that is why they are been pressure to give.

Yeah if you just get anything from 2Corinthians 9 verse 6 apart from the redefinition of what it means to give, what is sparingly sower is and the abundance sower is? Apart from that redefinition we've get clarity on this morning and again there is something that is a challenge here that we should broaden the base of our understanding, because if we don't broaden the base of your understanding on the revelation of grace yourself, then you will be guinea pigs (for) among all these charlatan who is going to pressure because your orifice is already narrow.

I think you actually made a great point in saying that the "sparingly" and the "bountifully" there is the base of the revelation of the love of God that you have. Is the base of your revelation of God's love.

And then they (the charlatan) will not stop on that one alone. Apart from putting that pressure on you and forcing and twisting just like an arm robber coming to disposes you of those things. They may bring you back to what you say, they relegate your life back to Malachi 3:19 and they suspend the grace of God.

And you know when we started the knock out series we are telling you in Colossian how men will spoil, how men are capable of spoiling you and robbing you. You know if somebody is coming in that way and you have not broaden your base, apart from

the pressure that they put you and they arm twist, and they disposes you of your things, they'll bring you back, relegate you back and suspend the grace of God. Then they bring you under curse. You don't understand that, they bring you under the curse, under the Malachi(an) curse again, again because they have suspend the grace of God and they bring you back to that place and what you find in that place, you will not find experiences, Oh! Maybe if I had sow much, then I won't have this devourer, is because somebody has taken you away from the grace, from avenue of grace and push you to the law. But the responsibility as you see yesterday was to see to it yourself. It is your responsibility to broaden your base. And Galatian 2:21 don't set aside the grace of God, yes do not set aside the grace of God, broaden this base of the understanding of the revelation of the grace of God. And that is the way that you can give, you have no point in giving, you better keep your money or anything unless you understand the grace. Because you are going to do grudgingly.

And you see that 2Corinthians was talking about the fact that these people understand, that they gave themselves over to the Lord first, if you have not given yourself to the lord, you have not business in participating in giving in any way. And then when you went back to that 1John 3:16 was telling us perceive the love of God. So somebody has not done anything of perception of God's love (perception first of God's love) so what is the point of giving to the brethren? No matter what, how noble giving to the brethren is, because you perceive, so you must do the business of perception, somebody that is what the work of your preacher. Until he has gotten you to the point of you can perceive the love of God, until you have grown to the point you can perceive the love of God, you have no business sin giving. It is pointless.

And you see there is something the Holy Spirit minister to me as you were talking. And I need to share that with people. And you see, what the Holy Spirit is trying to minister to me in 2Corinthians Chapter 9 verse six, verse seven is simply saying the reason why it was penned down in verse seven of 2 Corinthians 9 that let every man do as he purpose in his heart. This is the reason. He said your heart is like a conduit, it means for example if you have a room that can take four things, if I put four things in a room that can take four things that will look like a bounty, that will look like is filled up. If a room can take only two things and I put two things inside it will look like is filled up.

So what the Holy Ghost is simply saying in 2Corinthians 9:6&7 is this, by the time you give according to the measure of the revelation of Christ you have to you that is bounty. To you, you are full. It means you are exercising your giving in accordance to the revelation of God that you have. But if somebody try to pressure you to give

beyond the revelation of Christ that you have, what happens is, it becomes of grudgingly and it looks like the sparingly thing that we talked about.

It means then giving should only be commensurate to the revelation of the grace of God and the love of God that you have receive in your heart that propel you to give. So what we are simply saying then is, this verse seven of 2Corinthians 9 is simply saying that **let every man purpose in his heart...** Can you see that? Let giving be done based on the revelation of God's love and grace that you have.

I think some ministers, I mean who actually you know manipulate and merchandized people are not as concern as people having that revelation of God's love as they are concern about getting money off people. Even if they have to force that resource through a tiny orifice. They will make sure...

It doesn't matter how wide your diameter, or how tiny is, what they are concern about is, they don't really care about the base or the foundation of (your love of God) God's love in your heart. What matters to them is they just want to get the things out of your hand and that's why so much want to come through a tiny orifice, it comes with so much pressure. There is so much pressure. There is so much grudgingly. There is so much pressure through that pipe. And that is what is simply talking about.

So please anytime you read 2Corinthians 9:6 understand is not a scripture to use to tell people that you know what in 2017 if you want so much money to come back to you, you need to give bountifully, and if you give little today little will come back to you. That is not what it is simply saying. Is simply saying that when you are giving make sure that your giving is born out of the revelation of the grace of God and love of God. Don't let it be under pressure. So that is what we see there.

Yes am looking forward to this time in 2017 in the body of Christ that despite that we have known we have some ministers that specialize in raising offering, we have some people that specialize in teaching us how to perceive the love of God, how to respond to God's love and if we see any minister that has a good heart but he is not doing enough of this side, you just have to know that the work is cut out on you. You just have to make people to broaden that base of understanding. To broaden the base of understanding the grace of God that the people know what the grace of our Lord is and people can perceive. You just have to help them to perceive the love of God and from that point, if you have done that successfully well, you can move... Then you have the basis to talk about giving. But you just have to do this job- the job of making the people to understand, you have to broaden the base that the giving is not coming out of narrow orifice. You have to broaden the base of the understanding that it is hinge on the understanding of the grace of God.

It means people give because I say I am blessed and I think I need to bless others. That is the foundation, when we say the grace of God, it means you are giving knowing that you are blessed, not giving so that you can be blessed.

Now look at the second section of 2 Corinthians 9 verse seven

Let see what the Holy Spirit has to say further

See what it says

It says

7. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

It means not because there is a need or a demand for it, and again, the Apostle Paul is simply saying by the Holy Ghost God is not as interested in the size of the giving.

And I think most people who quotes verse six in most cases they run over verse seven because verse seven says just give according to what you purpose in your heart. Just give in according to how much revelation of Christ can make you respond, give according to that, don't try... Most ministers... They don't even go to verse seven. They stop at verse six. Because verse seven will defeat that purpose of verse six. Because they are going off it in the wrong way...

Yeah is true, because verse seven will mess up verse 6. If they go in that understanding for those who are good in that understanding. It's true! So we hear more of verse 6 than verse seven... that is or 2Corinthians 9. We hear more of six, am sure some people know six they don't even know seven like that.

(Verse) Seven says it doesn't matter how much you give, it doesn't matter, as long as is based on how far you've walked with God. Just give accordingly. Don't be pressure to give beyond your capacity. Not of necessity, not matter how they are saying. Not because there is a need, and you see this is very important.

I repeat what I said earlier today Paul is a very bad sales man, very bad! Because how can you be a good sales man when you are bringing a product to people and you are telling them things that will actually make them not to buy the products

And funny enough, is natural to respond to needs. Logically you see there is a need. But he said No! Don't give out of necessity. That is really mind blowing! That you have to give, don't give because you have to give. You know in church, people say ok, you know what! this is the New Year, we have a project and you have to give (it makes logical sense because there is a need).

And again this word necessity we can also look at it in a different perspective. We can simply say, well if I know I am not blessed unless I give, and I want to be blessed then I have no choice than to give.

You see all... that is Paul says who give out of necessity, you are giving because you think if you don't give you are not blessed. That is why people are pressure to give and when you give and is not born out of the fact that you know you are blessed and as blessed person you are meant to bless others. That is the right foundation of giving.

And that is why we repeat again 1Corinthians 13, the Apostle Paul did says even if you give all my goods to the poor and is not born out of love, he says what is the meaning of that? That is irrelevant. Is pointless.

Now watch this!

He says **if I give all my goods**

Not ninety percent, not ninety-five percent. Paul said if I give hundred percent. And I think ministers who tell people to give a lot more this year they will tell you, this year you need to show God that you are coming out of sacrifice. You have to sacrifice to God. Let God see your sacrifice. But the Apostle Paul said see in 1Corinthians 13 even if I sacrifice everything to the poor, leaving nothing and is not born out of the revelation of God's love, he said what is the meaning of that. He said is nothing, it profit nothing, is useless.

And I think we then see that 2 Corinthians 9:7 is simply saying is not about how much, he said let every man give according to what they purpose. It doesn't matter what the person is giving, it doesn't matter the volume and it should not be out of because there is a necessity, because there is compulsion. He said No! it shouldn't be out of that.

Look at the next phrase which is very great. The next phrase says

7. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: **for God loveth a cheerful giver.**

Can you see that? For God loves the person that gives one million No! for God loves the person that can say this year 2017 is the year in which I am going to actually sacrifice everything so that God can also pour down everything into my life as well. No! Or this year am going to give an offering to God that I have never given before. Some people will tell you Oh in the year 2017, you want God to do something in your life he's never done before, you need to give an offering you never given before. And you wonder where did this mean get all these statements from? Is not in the scripture.

Now he didn't say for God loves a person who is giving an offering he has never given me before. That is not what he said. What did he say? He doesn't say for God loves the one that gives in foreign currency or in higher denomination. He didn't say that. He said for God loves a cheerful giver.

Notice covetousness has been a game of competition. You know, you must give beyond this... we want you to be better than your other siblings. You know they are just bringing strife in the church and people competing to win God's favour and they are promoting the spirit of worldliness, and competition and covetousness. People that has not business, no idea, who has not develop the capacity for a million naira project you know they start giving to sow to get a million you know, to sow up to get...

People have not even has the capacity, they don't have the vision for that. But because on the pulpit, they parade and promote this, sow up to get this, do this to get into this. You see the competition, you see the spirit of worldliness, you see covetousness.

Now I think as you are talking there is something I think we need to address and I think this really apply to not just ministers who are ministering on the pulpit also the televangelist.

You know these days is quite fashionable, am not saying there is something wrong with this, is quite fashionable for ministry to want to be a blessing to the destitute, to the poor. People who are in famine, people who are undergoing, who are experiencing earthquake and all of this natural disaster. And we're trying to bring the gospel to them. And a lot of ministry now which is very good are actually having this understanding that they have to take resources to those people who are suffering and they raise offering and they said you need to give to the cause of the church so that the church can be a blessing.

Well let's not even talk about the fact that there are tithes and offerings already in the church before they begin to ask for offerings for the destitute. That is not the issue. The issues is some ministers believe well we can drive people and motivate people it doesn't matter how (how they get it done) because there is a need on ground.

Now before you go ahead with that kind of mentality.

Listen when this 2Corinthians Chapter 8, Chapter 9 was written I hope you don't forget the fact that in this context Paul was gathering these resources for the saints who are in famine, who are in trouble. He was not doing this because of saying that I want to... as an Apostle I need to get my benefit. No! This chapter 8 and Chapter 9 of 2Corinthians was because there was a need. Don't forget that. Because if you read Chapter 8, Chapter 9 it will tell you, because there was a need of the saint that was

why they were gathering. But then how can you come back Paul and say in 2Corinthians 9:7 and say is not of necessity?

The motivation trumps...

Paul is simply saying even though I said we are gathering this money or this resources for the need of the saints, but Corinthians brethren don't do this out of necessity. Don't do this because you have to do it.

Now can you see that? How can you teach giving to people and tell them don't give because you have to give. No!

Can ministers of God take that risk and tell people that today as you are going to give, don't give because there is a pressure to give, don't give because if you don't give what would the church do? Or don't give because if you don't give what is going to happen to the poor, don't give because you are being pressure to give, or because you have to. How can the Apostle Paul say that in 2Corinthians 9:7 when the very reason why he was asking for an offering is because there was a need of the saint?

In other word is telling us and encouraging us, to us to whom the end of the world has come that we have come to a situation in which we have not found an example in the scripture. So any pastor or any ministry cannot say what is happening to us, there is a urgent need, urgent appeal for this, we have an example here that for the gathering for the saints we are still binded by this law of grace.

He said the need shouldn't be that so critical that it drive people to give outside of grace. No matter the need! The need should not be that so serious that it drives people to give outside of grace. So that it now come to the point they now give sparingly, there is so much pressure, they are trying to give through the narrow orifice of God's understanding. They are trying to pass the giving thing through a very narrow pipe of God's grace. He said No! That shouldn't happen. But this was been written by a man who actually started to talk to them about giving because there was a need. So that is what we've come to find.

And then the last phrase is what we are going to dwell on now.

He says **for God loves a cheerful giver.**

You see he says what is important to God.

Now I think if you are listening to us, I want you to really think about this deeply. It said what is important to God, what matters to God is that the person's giving is given with joy and cheerfulness.

In fact a translation says God loves hilarious giver. Now God loves a giver who is giving knowing that oh! Am giving because I know am blessed. God has blessed me so much and I just... I want to give as a response to the goodness and the favour of God that is already upon on my life. He said that is what is important to God.

I repeat that is what is important to God. So if given a bit, a tiny bit or one pound, or one whatever currency is what will make you express the grace of God he said that is what is more important to God.

You know some charlatans has gone ahead, they've master this gimmicks in such a way that they know people are giving sorrowfully. They know they force it out but again they will not stop at that, they will abuse the people further to say they must come up with joy. In the midst of You know somebody is crying and weeping inside, because they just want to see that they tick the point in 2Corinthians 9, they will not say oh I know you are feeling bad, you are crying and everything inside, but this you must tick the point so that God can blessed... you must come up with joy no matter what, you must come up with joy.

okay now.

As good as that is thank you, you mention that.

Let's see 2Corinthians Chapter 8 and let's see what it has to say

Ha! No I don't think we can get to that today. We cannot get to that.

Because is almost close to an hour now. We can never get to that today.

Today in conclusion I just want to rap up this episode today. I just want to give this analogy I just hope our audience will be able to follow it. I know you have apply to some institutions in which they use point based system. You know just like you go for an exam, and everything they have a scheme, processes where they use point based. You know they have a scheme in which they judge. So if you fall, no matter what you do, or how noble or any other thing, if is not inside those points that they already set you don't get score for it.

Even some of them they make it so that transparent they tell you for this point one, it is hundred. If you have this, you have a tick for this. So you just need to have the tick in all of this things. Is as transparent like this.

I want you to see this episode today in 2Corinthians Chapter 8 where we have the point, is a point based system in a way am doing the analogy of our giving, is a point based system on grace. So the point that the Lord is looking at is that grace.

There are points here we have mentioned, because today was like talking about the motivation. Why should we give then? We've raised those points on the grace of God that you are already blessed.

So in your giving, you just have to check in your heart is this coming from the understanding that you are already blessed. Then you have that point. You know you certified (satisfy) that point, you certify (satisfy) the examiner. God is looking for a cheerful giver. Do you understand that already that you are blessed? Ok Let's see, is it out of necessity? You know is it grudgingly? How is it the orifice? Is it so narrow that what is coming out is just sparingly? So you have all those points in tick, present or absent in it.

And imagine somebody doing anything outside the points. You know God doesn't love a cheerful giver. Is just pointless. So there are some giving that are pointless. And that is why he was saying in the last... the last verse was saying God loves a cheerful giver meaning there are other givers. There are grudging givers, people that give out of necessity. There are pressure givers. Is not about the volume of the denomination.

So we are trusting the Lord that you are going to take this word further, you know to digest it and ruminate and we hope if this blesses you, if you are not really offended, I hope that you will shared this, you'll live this principle, you live on it and you will share it with other.

So should you have any other questions we are open to it, so any questions and any comments on Expose 247 page, you can just leave those there and as the Lord give us the ability we will treat it.(do it)

Next week we are going to continue because we can boldly say that we have not even gotten to verse eight.

So again you still have to be part of this, you just have to listen to everything. You listen to yesterday own, and today we see how the journey of this understanding of giving.

So next week Saturday 7pm UK time we are going to continue and we hope that you will join us.

So stay blessed and bye!!

God bless you.