



Cecil and Lisa Paxton Ministries

September 2020 Newsletter

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***"Let each one
[give] as he
has made up
his own mind
and purposed
in his heart"***

**2 Corinthians 9:7
AMPC**

Dear Partners and Friends

CLPMI Giving

Many partners may not be aware of our giving as a ministry, so in our last newsletter, we shared about giving into Russia, Ireland, Mexico, and Nicaragua. Also, in the United States, we support ten different works, including ministries, churches, and Bible colleges. For more details, feel free to contact our ministry.

Giving and Receiving

Four key principles of giving and receiving can be found in 2 Corinthians 9. The first is found in 2 Corinthians 9:6 – ***"He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully"*** (NKJV).

One translation says it this way, *"[Remember] this: he who sows sparingly and grudgingly will also reap sparingly and grudgingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to someone] will also reap generously and with blessings"* (AMPC).

In farming, it is common sense that the amount of seed put into the ground will determine the harvest. A constant increase in our giving as our prosperity increases is a natural byproduct in experiencing consistent increase in our lives.

When you receive a revelation of giving within your heart, there is an excitement, a joy, in your giving.

This leads to the next principle, in 2 Corinthians 9:7 – ***"Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind and purposed in his heart"*** (AMPC).

This verse goes on to say, *"...not reluctantly or sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in, prizes above other things...) a cheerful...giver [whose heart is in his giving]."*

In Acts 11:23, it says, *“with purpose of heart they chose to abide with the Lord.”* The phrase “purpose of heart” has the meaning of something that is already within the heart. You can purpose out of something you already possess, as it is a part of who you are and a revelation of the truth of God’s Word you have become.

In 2 Corinthians 9:7, people who “purpose in their hearts” are those who are going through the process of making up their own minds concerning something until they **purpose** within their hearts.

God loves and takes pleasure in cheerful givers whose hearts are in their giving. When it comes to the giving of your money, if there is any motive of the heart of fear from a selfish belief that would hinder your giving being of a pure heart, then the issue needs to be resolved or your giving will not benefit you correctly because it is not being given out of love.

In Proverbs 22:9 (NKJV), it says, *“He who has a generous eye will be blessed.”*

The word “eye” speaks of the motive of a person’s heart. What we live from the heart determines who we really are, which is why our heavenly Father relates to us from our hearts.

The third principle is found in 2 Corinthians 9:8 – ***“God is able to make all grace abound toward you”*** (NKJV).

Another translation says, *“...all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance”* (AMPC).

What is very beneficial for our hearts is to speak this truth from God’s Word for our own ears to hear. Having God’s perspective as our way of relating to life is more than just

choosing to believe the truth we hear. The words we consistently speak are a part of the process of truth being established within our hearts.

Grace, every favor and earthly blessing, comes to me in abundance!

Zechariah 4:6-7 (NKJV)

6 *“This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts.*

7 *‘Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of “Grace, grace to it!”’”*

Speak grace—God’s every favor and earthly and spiritual blessing.

In the fourth principle, in 2 Corinthians 9:8, we discover the purpose: ***“...that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work”*** (NKJV).

With our dependency in Christ, we can be self-sufficient to the place that we possess enough to require no aid or support, to the place that we are furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation (see 2 Cor. 9:8 in the AMPC).

Our heavenly Father is a quality giver, and that can be more fully understood through the greatest gift—Jesus Christ. In Christ, it is natural for us to have the gift of giving within our hearts. I encourage you to believe and become a giver and a receiver.

Encouragement for a Believer Financially Struggling

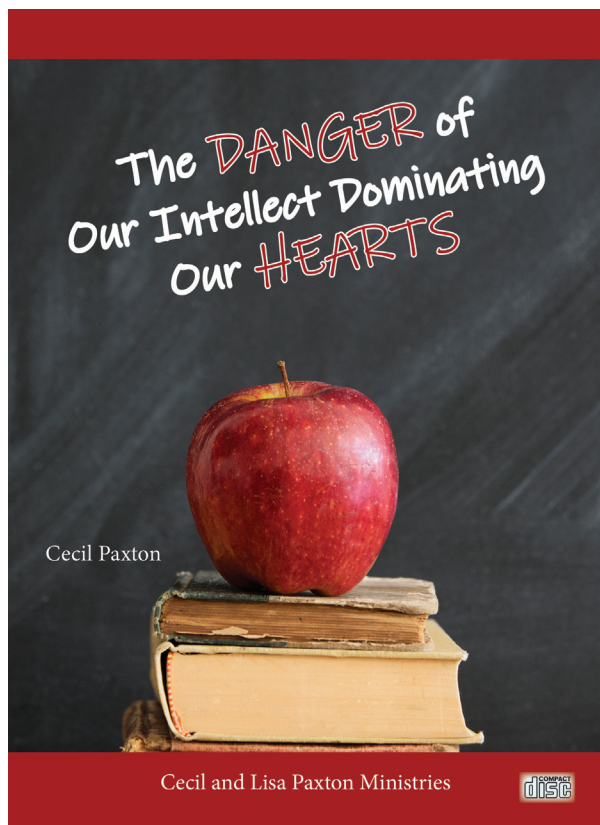
In 2 Corinthians 9:6, it says, *“He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully”* (NKJV).

New Teaching Album

The Danger of the Intellect Dominating Our Hearts

If something in life happened that has deeply influenced our hearts, resulting in establishing only a human perspective of the problem, then the end result is that we will live with a dependency on the mind of the flesh. Romans 8:7 calls this the carnal mind. The carnal mind, or the mind of the flesh, produces thoughts from a human perspective, which are based on natural knowledge alone. This kind of thinking produces thoughts that always focus on us, our self-life. Even though the Spirit of God dwells within us, when our hearts are in this condition, our lives become about us and not about Jesus, who is the source of true life.

The problem is always found in us, but freedom is found in Christ Jesus.



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People who are struggling financially because of life's circumstances could read this scripture and, with the wrong way of thinking, begin to believe that their situation is hopeless, as they have so little seed to sow.

Actually, that is not true. As a believer, you are not limited to man's natural laws; you can operate in God's kingdom laws.

Mark 12:41-44 (NKJV)

41 Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much.

42 Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans.

43 So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury;

44 for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."

This woman gave less in actual seed compared to each of the rich people in the amount they gave. But Jesus said she gave more than all the others! Here is a kingdom principle, as it was not the amount of the seed but the heart quality of the seed that made hers a greater gift.

You see, both principles are true. You can increase as 2 Corinthians 9:6 says, by sowing bountifully, but during financially challenging times of life, your giving has a multiplication that far exceeds the size of the seed. It is God who will multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality. Man can have the tendency to look at their outward performance from their own human perspective and see so little, but God always

looks inward to the heart of man and sees the greatness of how they are trusting God.

Jesus said that she gave MORE than ALL the others. The scriptures follow Jesus instead of the people, but I believe that when you see her in Heaven, she will have a wonderful testimony of the faithfulness of God.

Thank You!

Lisa and I are very grateful to you, our friends and partners of this ministry, as together we are seeing lives changed. We believe that you, our partners, are greatly prospering—spirit, soul, and body—as you experience increase in the seed you have sown, multiplying in the fruits of your righteousness. God's richest blessings in Christ are already yours. Believe and establish this truth in your heart and have an open heart to receive all that God has given you in Christ Jesus.

Blessings in Christ,

Cecil & Lisa

Testimony

Greetings in the name of the Lord.

Thank you for praying for our granddaughter a few weeks ago over the telephone. Just to update you, a lump was found near her spine. Praise God, the lump is confirmed that is not malignant. She is scheduled to have an operation to remove the lump on Wednesday, 12 August. The good news is that her situation is continuously improving daily, even without the operation, and we thank God for healing her. God bless you.



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Living Out of The Heart

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