Title: “The Enriched Life” Part I
Text: 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Target: The expression of generosity is more about faith than it is about finances. It is in the spirit of benevolence that the early church made such a profound impact upon a culture saturated in greed. Therefore, to live a life with a loose grip on every earthly possession, because of a heavenly perspective, is to believe that we are not owners of nothing, but instead stewards of everything.

Transition: The Corinthian church was challenged by the example of the churches of Macedonia to take an offering for impoverished Christ followers dwelling in Jerusalem facing extreme persecution and poverty. Therefore, the Apostle Paul exhorts them to excel in their spiritual gifting to give out of grace, not guilt.

Proverbs 11:24: One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

2. The Principle of Intent: 2 Cor. 9:7
A. Discerning Decision: “as he has decided in his heart”
B. Motives Matter: “not reluctantly or under compulsion”

3. The Pleasure of Imitation: 2 Cor. 9:7
A. Divine Initiative: “for God loves”
B. Divine Invitation: “cheerful (hilarious) giver”

2 Corinthians 8:9: 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.

4. The Provision through Intervention: 2 Cor. 9:8
A. His Power: “God is able”
B. His Precision: “all grace...all sufficiency...all times”

Take-Away: “Giving is not something we do, but something we are. Giving is a way of life for the Christian who understands the grace of God” - Wiersbe