



Now, friends, I want to report on the surprising and generous ways in which God is working in the churches in Macedonia province. Fierce troubles came down on the people of those churches, pushing them to the very limit. The trial exposed their true colors: They were incredibly happy, though desperately poor. The pressure triggered something totally unexpected: an outpouring of pure and generous gifts. I was there and saw it for myself. They gave offerings of whatever they could—far more than they could afford!—pleading for the privilege of helping out in the relief of poor Christians.

2 Corinthians 8:1-4  
The Message

## “Greed and Generosity”

April 5, 2019

Every day is filled with decisions between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Vice: Greed

- Greed is a term that we often use to describe \_\_\_\_\_ people.
- In order to be greedy, someone must have “\_\_\_\_\_ than I have.”

**Greed** is the belief that with more of some thing, we can control the \_\_\_\_\_.

### Problem

- We don’t have \_\_\_\_\_.
- We are afraid that there is not \_\_\_\_\_ out there – \_\_\_\_\_.
- Common forms of greed: \_\_\_\_\_, living \_\_\_\_\_ our means, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge.

### The Virtue: Generosity

*Generosity happens when whose we are is more important than what we have.*

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- We would rather be generous with \_\_\_\_\_ that don’t cost us much.
- “They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her \_\_\_\_\_, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

Mark 12:41-44

- Generosity requires \_\_\_\_\_.
- “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor...”

2 Corinthians 8:9

- A side effect of generosity is \_\_\_\_\_.
- “In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing \_\_\_\_\_ and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.”

2 Corinthians 8:2

- If we are not what we have, we are able to be \_\_\_\_\_ joyful with \_\_\_\_\_.

### Action Steps

- Be sacrificially generous \_\_\_\_\_ this week.
- Take a \_\_\_\_\_ this week.
- “What if the link between the Creator’s generosity and the neighbor’s needs is us, this community?”

-Walter Brueggemann