"Guardians of God's Treasure, Part 2"

Sunday, October 30, 2022, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Jonathan DeCou 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

BIG IDEA: Christ-followers are Guardians of Material Resources (Giving).

"The point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6, 7 (CSB)

Jesus Christ's Disciples realize my treasure is <u>God's</u> <u>treasure</u>.

- Jesus Christ's Disciples give regularly.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples <u>give</u> <u>generously</u>.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples <u>give</u> <u>willingly</u>.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples give secretly.

- Jesus Christ's Disciples give joyfully.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples <u>give</u> <u>lovingly</u>.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples give expectantly.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples <u>give</u> <u>evangelistically</u>.
- Jesus Christ's Disciples give thankfully.

BIG IDEA: Christ-followers are Guardians of Material Resources (Giving).

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 (See also other Scriptures referenced in the message.) **Think:** Evaluate your strategy for giving, then ask these questions: With whom do you trust money: Your kids, the bank, a financial advisor/broker, the government? Why is the gift for the Jerusalem church so important? By "sowing and reaping" imagery, is Paul saying, "Give \$100 and get back \$1000!" Why or why not? How is giving financial resources to the work of Christ a source of cheer for the giver? What do you make of the "all-ness" of v8? For what purpose will God materially bless these people? How does generosity affect righteousness and the ever-widening circles of people giving thanks to God? How is giving contagious? How does it reflect God's grace?

DO: How have you reaped by being generous to others in need? How can God's promise (v8) enable you to be more generous? What adjustments in your budget should you make in order to give more generously? To whom can you express thanks and appreciation for providing financial and material resources for you when you needed it most? Try writing a thank you note to God for His "indescribable gift".