



Grateful Hearts, Alive in Christ, for the Sake of God's World  
NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STEWARDSHIP 2024

### **2024 Stewardship Devotional** **Week 1: Sowing Generously in Love**

We hope you'll be enriched by this 3-week devotional as you prayerfully consider your generosity and commitment to NPC in 2024. May God speak to us through His word and fill our hearts with gratitude and grace.

**Scripture:** *The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

**Application:** Paul encourages the Corinthians to sow their resources generously, not out of compulsion, but with a joyful heart. Our giving is an opportunity to express our love for God and our commitment to God's work.

Paul uses an agricultural metaphor to emphasize the principle of sowing and reaping. He suggests that just as a farmer who scatters seed sparingly can expect a modest harvest, one who sows generously can anticipate an abundant yield. Paul extends this analogy to our giving, highlighting the spiritual truth that generosity generates blessings.

Paul also stresses that our giving comes from a thoughtful, intentional decision rather than an external pressure. We give joyfully and with enthusiasm out of a heart moved by the love of God.

As we contemplate these verses, consider the deep spiritual significance of your giving. It's an opportunity to sow into God's kingdom with a heart full of joy and commitment. It's an act of love for God. It's a declaration of trust in His promise of abundant blessings. Today, prayerfully reflect on your own generosity, striving to give joyfully, not because you have to, but because you want to partake in God's work and experience the overflowing blessings that result from cheerful generosity.

**Questions for Reflection:** Begin to move with a caring heart and allow God to meet you along the way. What are some examples of when your heart was moved by God's love? What motivates your giving? Is it out of obligation or a joyful response to God's love? How can you cultivate a cheerful and willing heart in your giving?

**Action Steps:** Spend time in prayer this week asking God to show you how he has been faithful to you. How can those blessings transform your heart for giving? What is one way you can give of your time, talent or treasure this week? What does God want you to know about your giving habits and motivations?

**Prayer:** Merciful God, thank you for your great love for me, for us. Help me to see your loving hand upon my life. Please work in my heart so my attitude toward giving is motivated by joy and love for you. In Jesus' name, amen.

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for more information and to make a commitment!**