

# Christmas Everyday

## **Intro:**

Lk 7:36-47

Giving is an act that begins in gratitude...not gratitude for our circumstances but gratitude for something else...grace

## **Problem:**

Jn 12:1-8

There is a second time this happens

We tend to think giving is about the utility of meeting a need but there is something more going on...it is an act of worship - a privileged opportunity to declare His worth

Paul begins his treatise on giving in 2 Cor 8:1-9 drawing this out...

## **Main Idea:**

Generosity is His grace expressed

Generosity is His love confessed

Like its Christmas everyday

## **Implication:**

Generosity is a supernatural act of grace...His grace expressed through you

Generosity is a supernatural act of love...His love expressed through you

Generosity is a supernatural act of incarnating...His incarnational work clearly expressed through you

## **Application:**

Eph 1:3

Christmas is expensive...good thing you are rich...

Christian you are blessed beyond imagining

Eph 1:7

You have been given the riches of His grace...

Eph 2:4

You have received the greatness of His love...

Eph 2:8-10

Look around you - you are surrounded by opportunities to express His incarnational grace to confess His incarnational love with your time talents and treasure...

Not just once a year but everyday you are invited to take part in God's incarnational act of supernatural generosity...

Every day you have an opportunity to be generous - remember this video - (oh holy night incarnation)

## **Articles for further study:**

<https://www.barabbas.com/grace-giving/>

[http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?](http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?sapurl=Lys00TViL2xiL21pLytodjU2dnpzP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==)

[sapurl=Lys00TViL2xiL21pLytodjU2dnpzP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==](http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?sapurl=Lys00TViL2xiL21pLytodjU2dnpzP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==)

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Christmas-gifts.html>

<https://www.gracelife.org/resources/gracenotes/?id=20&lang=eng>

## Christmas Everyday

Text:

### **Generosity is His grace expressed**

2Corinthians 8:1 ¶ We want you to know, brothers, about **the grace of God** that has been **given** among the churches of Macedonia,

2Corinthians 8:2 for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in **a wealth of generosity** on their part.

2Corinthians 8:3 For they **gave** according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord,

2Corinthians 8:4 begging us earnestly for the **favor (charis/privilege)** of **taking part (koinonia/partnership)** in the **relief (diakonia/ministry)** of the saints—

2Corinthians 8:5 and this, not as we expected, but they **gave** themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

2Corinthians 8:6 Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you **this act of grace**.

2Corinthians 8:7 But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in **this act of grace** also.

*2 cor 4:1; 5:18; 6:3 (relief = ministry - generosity is an act of service to God)*

*rom 12:1-6 (see that as you excel in everything...pertaining to worship...see that you excel in this also - worship is about more than money -they gave themselves to the Lord - but it is not about less - gave to us...our giving is a reflection about how much we believe it)*

*ex 35:4-35 (generosity is the favor (grace) the privilege of giving back to God - with our time talent and treasure - they were former slaves in the fleeing foreign armies in the wilderness - not based on circumstances)*

*ex 36:1-7 (notice it is the giver begging the fund raiser for the privilege to give - where did the money come from?)*

*ex 12:35-36 (generosity is supernatural act of grace -it is His impossible grace expressed through you)*

### **Generosity is His love confessed**

2Corinthians 8:8 ¶ I say this not as a command, but to **prove** by the earnestness of others that **your love also is genuine**.

*acts 5:1-14 (it reveals your audience - George Costanza tip jar - big salad)*

*matt 6:1-4, 24 (generosity reveals your motive and your master)*

*lk 21:1-4 (generosity is not about amount or ability but adoration and total trust in His love and care)*

*jn 13:1-17, 31-34 (generosity is supernatural act of love - it is His impossible love confessed through you)*

### **Like its Christmas everyday**

2Corinthians 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**.

*lk 9:58 (Remember how he constantly borrowed everything?. He was always borrowing. He had nothing of his own. He borrowed food, he borrowed clothing, he borrowed a coin to give an illustration, he borrowed a donkey to enter into the city of Jerusalem, and he finally had to borrow a tomb in which to be laid...but that is not in view here)*

*Phil 2:1-13 (its about His incarnation...expressed through you (like the Macedonians like Christ)*

*jn 3:16-21 (generosity is supernatural act of incarnating - it is His impossible work being clearly seen through you - His grace being clearly expressed through you - His love being clearly confessed through you...like its Christmas every day)*

*eph 1:3, 7; 2:4, 8-10 (application)*