

11/25/11 - Give Without Fear

RG AUDIO 1125

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Fear is one of the biggest hindrances to loving and giving. We hold back from giving, and from giving ourselves, because we are afraid. Our impulse is to pull back and protect ourselves. We are careful about monetary giving because we are afraid our own needs and desires won't be met. We are careful about giving ourselves because we are afraid of being hurt or embarrassed or of losing too much of our time.

Good news: God has freed us to love and give generously, without fear. Read today's key verse. We can love and give as God leads because he has promised to provide "all grace . . . in all things at all times" so that "having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8).

What happens when you are afraid to give? You get your eyes off God. You grow anxious. Joy and peace depart. Needy people suffer.

What happens when you give generously? The needy are helped. God is praised. Our hearts are drawn to him and to each other. God, the needy, and the givers are joined in a circle of love. As God leads, give freely. Don't break the circle!