



## “Giving”

Microcosm of Ministry  
II Corinthians 9:1-5

### Faithful giving:

**I. Provokes** – “your zeal has provoked very many” (vs. 1-2)

Provoking:

- A. **Ministry** – “For as touching ministering to the saints”
- B. **Mindset** – “For I know the forwardness of your mind”
- C. **Motivation** – “Your zeal hath provoked”

**II. Prepares** - “find you unprepared” (vs. 3-4)

Preparing that has the power to:

- A. **Employ** – “Yet have I sent the brethren”
- B. **Encourage** – “boasting of you should be in vain”
- C. **Embarrass** – “that we...should be ashamed”

**III. Performs** – “that the same might be ready” (vs. 5)

Performing what is:

- A. **Promised** - “make up beforehand your bounty”
- B. **Prescribed** – “whereof you had notice beforehand”
- C. **Plentiful** – “as a matter of bounty and not as of covetousness”

## Sentence Sermon

“The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity,  
but its sending capacity.” Stachura

### Additional Verses

- **Hebrews 10:24**
- **Matthew 6:1-4**
- **I Corinthians 16:1-4**
- **Acts 20:4**
- **I Thessalonians 1:8**
- **II Corinthians 8:11**
- **Philippians 2:2-4**
- **Isaiah 41:6**
- **Galatians 2:20**
- **James 5:12**

### Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. Would it be superfluous for Paul to write to you about some ministry?
4. What part of ministry do you get excited about?
5. Who in our church excites and provokes you by their zeal?
6. What are some of the negative effects of not being ready in ministry?
7. Why are some believers quick to volunteer but not follow through?
8. What are some of the similarities between giving and general ministry?
9. Was it right for Paul or is it right today to brag on fellow believers?
10. How would you describe someone who doesn't want to give? Covetous?
11. What are some promises you have made to God and have not fulfilled?
12. How does the generosity of others provoke you to do?