

Hilarious Giver

7-26-26

2Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful (hilarious) giver.

We all know that we should give to our local church. In fact, each of you have been so faithful, I don't feel like this message on giving is even necessary. I can agree with the Apostle Paul who said in 2 Corinthians 9:1, "Now it is unnecessary for me to write to you about this ministry." But hopefully you will be encouraged by going over the blessing God has promised each of you for faithfully giving to your local church. The literal word for cheerful is hilarious. When we understand giving, we will be hilariously joyful about giving. Back to:

2Corinthians 9:6 (NIV)

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

To communicate the benefit of giving, God uses the farming analogy of sowing and reaping.

Basically, if you don't put much in you don't get much back. However, you put a bunch in, and you get a bunch back. God bountifully multiplies more back than we give. The law of sowing and reaping is God's method of operation throughout the Bible. Note Gal. 6:7, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." Now return to verse 7. Based on our trust in God and our understanding of sowing and reaping, we make a decision about how much we are going to give to HIS local church. God wants us to make a heart decision by faith under no compulsion concerning the amount we will give.

2Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

God loves a cheerful giver, because they trust God and are absolutely convinced that they will receive back abundantly more than they gave.

2Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

God pays attention to what we give and blesses us according to our faith. We never lose one nickel of anything we give to God. We know that God will abundantly, bountifully, super exceedingly meet all our needs.

2Corinthians 9:10 (NIV)

Now HE who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply* and increase your store of seed and will enlarge your harvest.

God not only provides for our needs but also gives us abundantly more so that we will be able to hilariously give again. **Fascinating:** *Supply – Choregeo –Theatrical production in ancient Athens where someone would lead a dance or chorus, then, someone else would pay all the expenses for the entire performance. **The word came to mean fully supply.** Therefore, we could say, God asks us to perform, giving, then HE pays the cost of the entire performance. God says, “You perform in this dance, giving, and I will pay all the expenses,” or “Dance with me by giving and I will abundantly meet all your needs.” **God loves to keep dancing with us.** Therefore, verse 11 makes so much sense.

2Corinthians 9:11 (NIV)

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion.

Giving never ends! Not only is giving beneficial, it is also being credited to our personal account.

Philippians 4:17 (NIV)

Not that I desire your gifts (giving); what I desire is that more be credited to your account.

The Apostle Paul said that he doesn't desire our gift as much as he desires the blessings and resources added to our heavenly account when we give. This account holds resources available for future withdrawals. Thus Paul says:

Philippians 4:17 (NIV)

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

This is why we are hilarious givers. We know that God will meet all our needs. God loves hilarious givers.

John 14:6 (ESV)

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

*Choregeo fundamentally means to “lavishly supply for” or “provide for” something completely.¹ The word carries a rich historical pedigree rooted in Athenian theatrical culture.

The term originally referred to leading a chorus in classical Greek drama, where wealthy community members—called the choregos—would be selected to oversee theatrical productions.¹ These individuals bore financial responsibility for every production expense, from costumes and props to training, often spending considerable sums to create award-winning performances.¹ This role as the financial underwriter of theatrical needs gave rise to the metaphorical sense of supplying, furnishing, and ministering to others’ requirements.¹

Beyond its classical origins, choregeo appears in the Septuagint with the meaning “furnish” or “supply”—for instance, Solomon’s governors “provided” food for the royal household.¹ In the New Testament, the word appears only twice.¹ [First Peter 4:11](#) emphasizes that Christians should minister according to abilities that God supplies, positioning God as both the provider and ultimate source of all ministry.¹ [Second Corinthians 9:10](#) promises that the cheerful giver will receive God’s abundant provision of resources.¹

The related compound form, epichoregeo, intensifies this meaning. While papyri texts favor the simple form choregeo, they employ epichoregeo to underscore the generous and unreserved character of the provider.² The prepositional prefix epi adds an element of intensity, suggesting provision “with generosity and without restraint.”² This etymological evolution demonstrates how choregeo transformed from a specific civic duty into a powerful metaphor for generous, abundant supply.

¹

Thoralf Gilbrant, “[Χορηγέω](#),” in *The New Testament Greek-English Dictionary* (WORDsearch, 1991). [See [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#).]

²

Thoralf Gilbrant, “[Επιχορηγέω](#),” in *The New Testament Greek-English Dictionary* (WORDsearch, 1991). [See [here](#), [here](#).]