

An Invitation to Excel in the Grace of Giving

II Corinthians 8:1-7

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"See that you also excel in this grace of giving." (v. 7)

I. The context

- A. The **Macedonian Churches** are an example. (vs. 1-5)
- B. The **Corinthian Church** is encouraged to complete the offering they started gathering for the Jerusalem Church. (vs. 6-7)
- C. The **Jerusalem Church** is the recipient of the offering being collected.

II. **Why** would a person or church want to excel in the grace of giving?

—> A wider distribution of grace

III. **How** does a person or church excel in the grace of giving?

- A. Understand and live the connection between

Grace —> Joy —> Giving

Macedonian Churches

"Grace" v. 1

"Overflowing joy" v. 2

"Rich generosity" v. 2

Corinthian Church v. 6

- B. An overflow requires an inflow
 - 1. The insufficiency of the self

I Corinthians 13:3 "If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames but have not love, I gain nothing.

- 2. Inflow from God (grace)