

Excel in the Grace of Giving

“But just as you excel in everything...in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us...see that you also excel in this grace of giving” (Corinthians 8:7)

On Sundays: **September 30, October 7, and October 14**, our worship theme will be “Excel in the Grace of Giving.” We hope you will make every effort to be present on all three Sundays. During the second Sunday, we will introduce a giving challenge titled “Give Plus One.”

We hope and pray that the messages offered will help us in our journeys as faithful and generous stewards. By the power of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, we are molded and transformed into stewards who follow God’s ways and become more Christ-like in our giving. As Christians, we are motivated to give by the gift of God’s grace through his son. With hearts filled with God’s love and grace, we can give faithfully.

Giving is our faith response to God’s gifts. God wants us to give willingly and cheerfully out of hearts filled with love and gratitude for our present and eternal lives. We also give out of obedience because God’s Word directs us to give. The Apostle Paul said, *“But just as you excel in everything ... in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us ... see that you also excel in this grace of giving”* (2 Corinthians 8:7). Just as Paul urged the people in Corinth to give, we are urged to *“excel in this grace of giving.”*

The themes of the Sunday morning Bible studies during these three weeks will be:

“Why Christians Give”

“Outrageous Giving”

“Principles of Giving”

Please bring your commitment forms to church on Commitment Sunday, **October 14**, or return it to the church office at your convenience by October 14.

May God bless and keep us in His peace and joy as we give to Him!

The Stewardship Committee