



First, We Give Of Ourselves

Giving in Grace

“We Give of Ourselves”

This weekend, we will consider what it means as “we give of ourselves.” The Apostle Paul writes of this spiritual aspect of our giving in 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. Here, Paul speaks of the Macedonian Christians who, in the midst of their own financial trials, shared a grace filled offering for people who were suffering in Jerusalem. As Paul speaks of the Macedonians and their giving, he uses descriptive phrases such as “the grace of God,” “abundant joy,” “wealth of generosity,” and others. But our theme verse appears in the 5th verse of this passage when Paul says this of the Macedonians and their giving: *“and this, not merely as we expected, they gave themselves first to the Lord...”* 2 Corinthians 8:5

Giving of oneself is set out by Paul as the spiritual understanding of grace filled giving. Our giving is more than what is in our pocket book at any given moment. Giving in grace is a life filled response to God’s grace in Christ. It is the joy and delight in the giving of oneself in response to God’s rich and abundant gift of grace. This is the measure of grace filled stewardship.

Where have you seen or experienced God’s grace this past week?

What ways have you “given yourself” in grace this past week?