

**“WHO’S YOUR REAL BOSS?”**

2/22/09

2 Corinthians 9:6-11 **“Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. <sup>7</sup> You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure; for God loves a person who gives cheerfully. <sup>8</sup> And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. <sup>9</sup> As the Scriptures say,**

**‘They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.’**

**<sup>10</sup> For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. <sup>11</sup> Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.”**

**FOUR PRINCIPLES OF GENEROSITY**

**1<sup>ST</sup> – IT’S PROPORTIONAL (v.6)**

**“A farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.”**

**Laws of the harvest:**

**LAW 1 - We reap what we sow.**

**Galatians 6:7(NIV) "God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows."**

**Law 2 - We reap more that we sow.**

**“Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times.” Mark 4:8**

**Law 3 - We reap after we sow.**

**Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV) “Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”**

## **2<sup>ND</sup> – IT'S PERSONAL (v.7)**

**“You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure; for God loves a person who gives cheerfully.”**

**Mark 12:43-44 “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.”**

## **3<sup>RD</sup> – IT'S PROVISIONAL (v.8)**

**v.8 “And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.”**

**Deuteronomy 8:18(NIV) “But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.”**

## **4<sup>TH</sup> – IT'S PRODUCTIVE (vs. 10&11)**

**“In the same way, he(God) will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.”**

### **1) Increased resources**

**1 Kings 17:14 “For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the LORD sends rain and the crops grow again!”**

### **2) Enlarged harvest**

**Luke 6:38 “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.”**

### **3) Real riches**

**Philippians 4:19 “And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.”**

### **4) More generosity**

### **5) Thanksgiving to God**

