

Biblical Foundations Seeds of Generosity

Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

—2 Corinthians 9:10–11 NIV

Isn't it interesting that Paul likens our financial and material resources to seed? The metaphor is appropriate because, just like seed, these resources share several qualities.

Financial resources are meant to be distributed.

Money accomplishes nothing if it is buried in the ground or under the mattress. Even money invested in the bank has the opportunity to grow, with the hope that, someday, those funds can be used for a worthwhile purpose. So it is with seeds. Seeds are meant to be sown.

God provides us with financial resources in order to meet our needs and the needs of our dependents. In many cases, He gives us more than we need so that we can be a channel of blessing to others as well. When we take our God-given resources and share them with others, we are sowing seeds.

Financial resources can produce bountiful results.

Just as when seed produces a bountiful harvest, so sharing God's resources produces amazing outcomes. Because giving blesses both the recipient and the giver, God's blessing multiplies. We become the hands and feet of Jesus Christ when we choose to become a channel of His provision.

Paul describes several outcomes when we give. One outcome is that God increases our capacity to be generous. God seems to take pleasure in placing His resources into the hands of stewards who are generous and eager to share. Another outcome is that God will be glorified, and there will be an abundance of gratitude.

