

A  **CENTRAL** SERIES
ASSEMBLY

GRITTY SPIRITUALITY

2 CORINTHIANS

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ASSEMBLY

GRITTY SPIRITUALITY

RISKY GENEROSITY

2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-2

¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.

JOY
+ POVERTY

GENEROSITY

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

“Made in his [God’s] image, human beings are in fact hardwired to be generous.”

–JAY Y. KIM

TAKE THE RISK:

A journey to Jesus-like generosity...

1. Defy your selfishness

2 CORINTHIANS 8:3B-4

³ ...Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.

“At the very heart of the Christian gospel is a cross—the symbol of suffering and sacrifice, of hurt and pain and humiliation and rejection. I want no part of the Christian message which does not call me to involvement, requires of me no sacrifice, takes from me no comfort, requires of me less than the best I have to give.”

—DONALD WILDMON

1. Defy your selfishness

2. Decide who you are serving

2 CORINTHIANS 8:5

⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

**- Jesus is not as attached to
what we possess as we are**

- Jesus is not as attached to what we possess as we are**
- Jesus is concerned about the power of our possessions over us**

- 1. Defy your selfishness**
- 2. Decide who you are serving**
- 3. Determine to pursue
'giving excellence'**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:7

⁷ But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

“Hearts touched by God
respond with a tenth.”

-PASTOR ROB KETTERLING

- 1. Defy your selfishness**
- 2. Decide who you are serving**
- 3. Determine to pursue
'giving excellence'**
- 4. Don't settle for good intentions**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:10-11

¹⁰ And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.

- I'm not the giving type

- I'm not the giving type**
- I'll give when I have more**

- I'm not the giving type**
- I'll give when I have more**
- I can't give enough to
make a difference**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:12

¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

- 1. Defy your selfishness**
- 2. Decide who you are serving**
- 3. Determine to pursue
'giving excellence'**
- 4. Don't settle for good intentions**
- 5. Do something!**

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

- 1. Defy your selfishness**
- 2. Decide who you are serving**
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- 5. Do something!**

