## **Embracing Who I Am**

## 6. Generous

November 18, 2018

Corinthians 9: 6-15 NLT - <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God. <sup>13</sup> As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you. <sup>15</sup> Thank God for this gift too wonderful for words

I don't want to be the Dead Sea its dead because it only receives and nothing flows out. I want to be the Jordan River it's alive because it receives and is constantly giving.

## Generosity

1. Creates impact. (vs. 6)

Acts 20: 35 - ... we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

2. It's all about attitude. (vs. 7)

**Malachi 3: 8, 9** - "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup> You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me.

3. Unleashes God's blessing in our lives. (vs 8-11)

**Malachi 3: 10** - Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

4. Advances God's kingdom. (vs. 12-15)

**John 3: 16** - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.