

Overcoming Mediocrity

Randy Clark 4Q 2006

Assignment for tonight:

1. Memorize 2 Cor 10:3-5
2. Bring two passages that relate to tonight's topic: "Becoming a Role Model"

Thought for tonight:

"...the one who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully." 2 Cor 9:6

Becoming a Model For Others

Positive:

Love, Joy, Peace... Gal 5:22-26

Joyful Heart... Prov 15:13 = a cheerful face

Cheerful Heart... Prov 17:22 = good medicine, lit. "causes healing"

Negative:

Humiliated...2 Cor 9:1-4

Sowing/Reaping...v.6

Not Grudgingly...v.7

Examples:

#1; Moses, Israel, and The Tabernacle

Ex 25:1-7 - The directive

Ex 25:10-35 ch. - The details

Ex 35:4-9 - "...whosoever has a willing heart"

Vv 10-19 - Use our talents for the Lord!

Vv 20-21 - They came!
Vv 22-29 - They worked!
Ex 36:2-7 - They had more than enough!

#2; Nehemiah and the walls of Jerusalem
Neh 2:17 - A bad situation... "disgrace"
2:18 - Put their hands to work
4:6 - A mind to work
6:15-16 - 52 days!!!

#3; The Magi
Mt 2:10-11 - They brought what they had.

#4; Paul and others
Paul gave himself, Barnabus, Peter, apostles - because of
Joy! What does heaven sound like? - Rev 22:2-4

Practical Application

Be Generous ! Be Joyful !

1. Reflect on God's gifts to you - Psm 103:1-6 (eyesight, taste, a good mind, skills to earn a living, a good education, a family, clothing, warm bed, cool place in the summer).
2. Remind yourself of God's promises - 2 Cor 9:6 (you reap what you sow)
3. Examine your heart - watch out what & who you compare yourself to.
4. Glorify God - by being extremely generous, Go "Break a vase!"
cf: Mary's extravagance, Mt 26:6-13; Mk 14:1-9; Jno 12:1-8

God's Template

God
So loved
The world
That He gave
His only Son
That whosoever
Believes in Him
Should not perish
But have eternal life

the greatest giver
the greatest motive
the greatest need
the greatest act
the greatest gift
the greatest invitation
the greatest opportunity
the greatest deliverance
the greatest joy