

DAY 20. — GENEROSITY WITH MONEY

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities —all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,”

COLOSSIANS 1:15-19 (ESV)

In Colossians, the surpassing generosity of Christ is revealed. We are approaching the 1-year anniversary of our F1RST initiative (see northviewchurch.us/first for more information), where we, as a church, committed to declare Jesus Christ first before all things, including our finances.

Through F1RST, we are acknowledging that joyful sacrifice means giving up something we love for something we love even more. That “something more” is Christ. Our response to his great generosity should be complete surrender. God calls you to steward every area of your life, including your finances. Perhaps you are generous with your finances, but it doesn’t feel joyful. Or perhaps you struggle to trust that if you sow generously, you will reap generously. Today, ask God to help you acknowledge the preeminence of Christ in your finances so that you may experience the joy of generosity.

PRAYER:

Father, thank you that I can trust you with my finances. I believe you have everything I need, and you want to bless me. You tell me that you love a cheerful giver, so help me experience joy as I give. May it be for your glory alone so that others may see your power and goodness at work through my giving.