



SEE IT

2 Corinthians 8:2-3 "Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even **beyond** their ability,"

OBEY IT

When I talk to married couples, I ask them, "What is one of the most dangerous enemies of a home?" The response may seem strange, but it's true. It's the **routine** filled life. Today being the same as yesterday, which was the same as the day before. Different date in the calendar but it's the same thing. Monotony kills love, withers away passion, and dampens relationships. How does this apply to service? I have three challenges for you:

1. **Leave your comfort zone.** Give more than you think you can. Give until it hurts. Agree with God that you will pay for or participate in some service project in your local church, support an evangelistic endeavor in the community, or help a person in need. Then do it, once and for all, and put God to the test. Go beyond your ability.
2. **If you want to have what you've never had before, give what you've never given before.** In other words, if you keep on giving as you've always done before, you'll keep on having what you've always had before. Isn't it time to rise to the next level? Go beyond your comfort level.
3. **Don't wait for conditions to be right, serve today.** If you wait for all conditions to be just right, you probably will never serve. We don't want to be reckless. We also don't want to miss what God is about to do. Ask God to open doors and then walk through them. Serve in something that stretches you. Go beyond your possibilities.

SHARE IT

1. Let things go. Laugh heartily at yourself.
2. Share your last bit.
3. Stop everything to help someone else.

My Prayer Today:

Lord, I give you permission to stretch me, challenge me and push me. Help me go "beyond". Amen.

My Thoughts _____



SEE IT

Genesis 12:2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing,"

OBEY IT

How will you complete this text?: "You will be made rich in every way so _____" 2 Corinthians 9:11. Some answer, so...

- I can live well.
- I can pay my bills.
- I can provide for my family.
- I can pay off my house.
- I can have economic security.

If God, in his infinite mercy, tomorrow should send you a check for one million, what would you do with it? How would you impact the world? How would you help your community? I encourage you to outline a plan where you help your community, beginning today. Think big and dream beyond what you see at the moment. Prepare to put into practice that which you want to accomplish when your opportunity comes, but start doing something small today. This 40 day devotional is a way for you to keep these concepts fresh in your mind and fulfill the real purpose for which God blesses us. Here is that text: "You will be made rich 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 9:11 (emphasis supplied).

SHARE IT

1. Plant a tree.
2. Send a teacher flowers or an appreciation letter.
3. Write a thank you letter to your parents.

My Prayer Today:

Lord, help me be generous. Consistently. Amen.

My Thoughts _____
