A <u>picture</u> of generosity

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. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. 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. **2 Cor. 8:1-5**

PRINCIPLES OF GENEROSITY

6 Remember this: Whoever <u>sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously</u>. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for <u>God loves a cheerful giver</u>. 8 And <u>God is able to make all grace abound to you</u>, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Cor. 9:6-8

INCREASE

Remember this: Whoever <u>sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously</u>. **Vs. 6**

Prosperity Gospel Poverty Gospel Generosity Gospel

MOTIVE

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. **Vs. 7**

OVERFLOW

And <u>God is able to make all grace abound to you</u>, so that in <u>all things at all times</u>, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. **Vs. 8**

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for <u>God loves a cheerful giver</u>. **Vs. 7**

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. **Philippians 4:11**

Proverbs 22:7... "Borrower is servant to the Lender"

Steps out of Debt:

1. Change your perspective

a. Determine whose money it really is

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Ps. 24:1

b. Debt should not be a normal part of our lives

2. Quit borrowing money

a. Get on a budget. A budget is a diet plan for you finances.

3. Prayer really works

This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. Ps. 34:6

4. Sell something

a. Name your dog E-bay and your cat Craigslist

5. Take a part time Job

a. Proverbs 6:1, 4–5: "My son, if you become surety for your friend, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, give no sleep to your eyes, no slumber to your eyelids. Deliver yourself like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter and like a bird from the hand of the fowler."

6. Utilize the power of the debt snowball